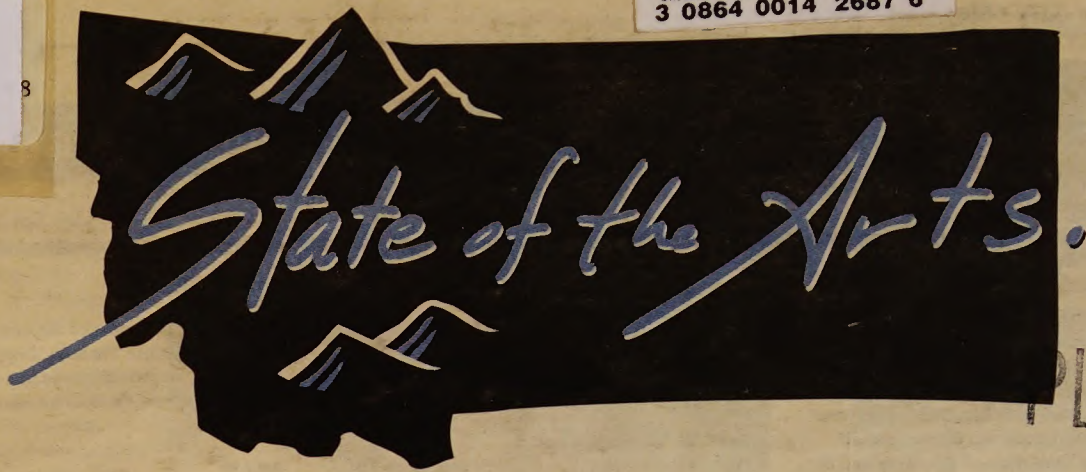


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Montana Arts Council • Providing Information to Montana Arts Communities • May/June 1998

## CONFERENCES GALORE

### Elliot Eisner headlines "Genesis II"

The Creative Pulse of the University of Montana, the Office of Public Instruction and the Montana Arts Council are sponsoring an exciting three-day conference in

Missoula, June 17-19. "GENESIS II: Technology for Creative Thinking" will offer more than

30 sessions that demonstrate meaningful applications of technology for teaching and learning in the arts and humanities. The emphasis is on ways teachers can design instruction and students can learn to use technology creatively and purposefully.

The conference is modeled after "GENESIS: Breathing Life into Learning Through the Arts," held in 1996. Like its predecessor, this year's gathering meshes with one week of the Creative Pulse, a master's level program in the arts and humanities for K-12 teachers. Workshops are on tap by a variety of artists and teachers, including staff from schools involved in the Aesthetic Literacy Project.

The keynote speaker is Elliot Eisner, Professor of

Education and Art at Stanford University, and a pioneer in the use of critical methods from the arts in improving educational practice. Eisner is the author of Cognition and Curriculum, The Enlightened Eye, The Educational Imagination, Educating Artistic Vision, and The Role of Discipline-Based Art Education in America's Schools. He

## Genesis II: Technology for Creative Thinking

has also served as president of the American Educational Research Association, the National Art Education Association and the International Society for Education Through Art.

Pressured to rapidly integrate technology into classroom instruction, teachers are concerned about the quality of sound, images and text that emerges. Through demonstrations of arts-centered technology applications, conference-goers will explore criteria for the production and consumption of technology-enhanced products, publications and performances.

GENESIS II begins with a performance on the evening of June 17 in the Montana Theater and continues through June 19. Call 406-243-4970 for details.

### Bill Cleveland tapped for youth summit

Nationally noted leader in the field of the arts and youth at risk, Bill Cleveland, has been tapped to be a keynote speaker at the upcoming Governor's Youth Summit in Billings on Monday, June 15.

The Montana Arts Council is serving as a partner in this impressive Summit, sponsoring the keynote address by Cleveland. Arts groups in Billings have been actively planning to be involved in the Summit, as well.

Here are some excerpts from "Art Works! Prevention Programs for Youth & Communities," published by the National Endowment for the Arts and the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention. Mr. Cleveland authored the introduction, which gives the flavor of his perspectives.

"Over the past two decades some of this country's finest artists and arts organizations have quietly estab-



lished a remarkable record of innovation and success in institutional and community settings. These unlikely arts partnerships have been established in factories, jails, condominiums, probation departments, senior centers, special schools and many other nontraditional sites. This work has not only challenged traditional ideas about

the arts in America, it has also created successful models from which those providing services to young people can learn a great deal.

"...Unfortunately, in more and more communities, young people, particularly teens, are treated not as a critical part of the whole but as another marginal population segment. This categorization means that some youth, like the elderly or the physically challenged, are considered more as a function of their

Continued on page 4

### Arts conference examines public funding

High Plains artists and arts administrators take up the debate over public funding of the arts at the Art Beyond Boundaries (ABB) conference in Chadron, Neb., June 26-28.

The annual five-state arts conference will bring the national debate into regional focus, according to Arlynn Fishbaugh, Montana Arts Council Executive Director. Speakers and presenters include nationally recognized arts leaders and notable artists and arts administrators representing Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wyoming. Keynote speakers are Bob Lynch, president and CEO of Americans for the Arts, and Karen Christenson, acting deputy director of the National Endowment for the Arts Partnership Program, Washington, D.C.

Nebraska State Senator Lavon Crosby will join Lynch and Christenson in Friday's plenary session, "In the Public Interest," moderated by actor Graham Thatcher. On Saturday, conference participants design a day of workshops to fit their needs, choosing among topics ranging from "Local Arts, Local Schools" to "Public Art: Pitfalls and Opportunities". Presenters and panelists from the five-state region will keep workshops lively and pertinent.

Performing Arts and Visual Arts Showcases will highlight the three-day conference. Montana performing artists appearing at ABB are: Arch Ellwein, Sidney; Montana Transport Company, Missoula; Vigilante

Continued on page 4

### Gov. Racicot launches "State of the Arts" Speaker's Program

Governor Marc Racicot launched the Arts Council's terrific new "State of the Arts" by inviting service organizations throughout the state to book this 20-minute program.

**What does the program cover?** The relevancy of the arts to our daily lives in Montana. How the arts impact the economy, community and education. And information about the Montana Arts Council, funding of the arts, and the services available to Montanans through the agency.

**Who is the program geared for?**

The program is designed primarily for non-arts audiences such as Rotary, Kiwanis, Lions, and other service organizations, school boards, Republican and Democrat Clubs,

AAUW, etc. But there is so much good, solid information about the arts in Montana and the Arts Council that it will be of great interest to arts groups, as well.

**How does the program work?** There is one program to be presented, rather than a series (We may decide in the future to branch out with several versions focusing on specific areas, but right now this is a general overview program.). The program is presented by a speaker and has a script and 28 color overheads (an overhead projector is required for the presentation). The presentation takes 20 minutes, which allows time for questions and answers following the program.

**How do you book a program?** Call the Montana Arts Council to set up a date, time, place, contact, etc. The Arts Council then selects one of our "State of the Arts" volunteer speakers whom we feel would be well suited for your group.

Continued on page 2

### New NEA grant program to target Montana

Montana is one of 20 states that will participate in the first round of ArtsREACH, a National Endowment for the Arts pilot program designed to increase the level of direct NEA grant assistance to arts organizations in underserved areas.

The pilot project will target states that have received five or fewer direct NEA grants during one of the previous two years.

ArtsREACH will provide modest grants to partnerships of cultural, business, social, government, civic, and religious groups. A nonprofit organization must submit the application and assume responsibility for the grant.

The lead organization may be an arts organization, a local arts agency, a federally recognized tribal community or tribe, an official unit of state or local government, or some other organization that can help advance the goals of ArtsREACH.

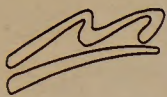
Continued on page 4



**We need your help!**

Please make sure all of your local service organizations know about and book the "State of the Arts" speaker's program.





# Arni's Addendum

Arlynn Fishbaugh, Executive Director

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## ArtistSearch renamed State of the Arts

The Montana Arts Council chose *State of the Arts* as the winning name and concept in the contest to redesign *ArtistSearch*. Barbara Koostra of Missoula created the winning concept.

All entrants were reviewed on the design and name concept alone, without the Council knowing the name of the artist submitting the proposal.

According to Chairman Bill Frazier, "*State of the Arts* aptly captures the essence of the impact of the arts to our great state." The fact that when something is the finest in quality it is called "state of the art" was not lost on Council members either.

Coincidentally, their top choice for retitling this newsletter is also the name of the new "State of the Arts" speaker's program, which debuts this spring.

The "State of the Arts" public awareness speaker's program has been a welcome project this past several months. We are eager to get this program into every nook and cranny of the state, and sincerely look forward to everyone helping make this a reality. Please read all about it on the front page of this issue and then help us get the program into your town.

### Grant Review

We are busy preparing for the next round of grants. Organizational Excellence and Tour Fee Support applications are due May 1 and Arts Are Central to the Communities grants are due May 15. Grant panel meetings will be June 12 in Helena, and we encourage all applicants to attend this review. It is very insightful to learn how your application is perceived, and is invaluable in learning how to maximize making your case in your application. On the day this issue goes to press we plan to review the Artists-in-the-Schools/Communities applications.

### Cultural Trust

These applications are in the process of heavy streamlining. We had hoped to get them in the mail earlier, but it looks realistically like a mailing the very end of April.

### Council Member Jack Hines

We regrettably received word from Jack Hines that he wished to resign from the Council to pursue projects and other efforts he and his wife, Jessica Zemsky, are working on. Jack has been a fine member of the Council, and we are sorry to see him go. We know our paths will continue to cross and we wish him and Jessica our very best wishes.

### Five Council Members Reappointed

Five members of the Montana Arts Council who have served one five-year term were reappointed to second terms by Governor Racicot. These individuals are Ann Cogswell, Great Falls; Sody Jones and Rick Halmes, Billings; Diane Klein, Kalispell; and Jackie Parsons, Browning. We are absolutely delighted, and want to thank Governor Racicot publicly for his reappointment of these individuals.

Each of these members brings a very different perspective to the Council, and there is strength in this diversity of experience and opinion. Each has been a devoted, active, and effective advocate of the arts in their own community and statewide, and we are deeply indebted to each one for their very valuable assistance.

The entire Council is a remarkable body of people and I wish that everyone reading this newsletter could meet them all. Some are artists, musicians, performers, writers; others are appreciators of art; and some are arts educators. All are arts champions in one way or another.

Each of these folks donates hundreds of hours to serve the arts and the state of Montana. They have been, and I'm sure will continue to be, very strong advocates on behalf of all the arts in Montana. They deserve our warm and continual thanks. What a tremendous asset to the arts!

### On the Road Again

I try to visit as many arts organizations and attend as many speaking engagements as possible, but my ability to get around the state has been severely hindered the past two years by all of our budget struggles. They take so much time!

Here is a snapshot of the visits I'll be making in April, May and June. As in the movie "Field of Dreams," "If invited, I will certainly do my best to come":

April 4, Bozeman Symphony  
April 5, Missoula Symphony  
April 18, Billings Symphony

April 19, Choteau Performing Arts League  
April 20, MAC Artists-in-the-Schools/Communities panel, Lewistown  
April 25, Montana Ballet Benefit at Gallatin Gateway  
April 26, Glacier Orchestra  
April 27, Kalispell Arts Council and Browning  
April 28, Great Falls Symphony  
May 2, Chuck Tooley reception, Billings  
May 3, MAC Folk Arts Exhibit opening, Chester  
May 6, Montana Arts Council Literature Fellowships Winners reading, Holter Museum in Helena  
May 8, Butte Symphony  
May 9, Helena Symphony  
May 11, Arts Education Evaluation, Bozeman  
May 13, Intermountain Opera Company, Bozeman  
May 15-17, WESTAF Board Meeting, Portland  
May 18, Simms High School residency  
May 20, Myrna Loy gathering to welcome new director, Joseph Franklin  
June 12-13, MAC Meeting, Helena  
June 14-16, Youth Summit, Billings  
June 16-21, League of Historic American Theatres conference, Colorado  
June 26-27, National Assembly of State Arts Agencies meeting

I am still working to add the Miles City Symphony to my travels. I very much look forward to my road trips!

### Arts Education Evaluation

We are in the middle of this process right now. Louise Stevens' ArtsMarket Consulting in Bozeman has conducted interviews with targeted groups of people heavily involved in arts education. We will use that feedback to help us restructure this program. We plan to meet in Bozeman on May 11 to hear the guidance provided from folks with whom Louise has spoken. We will work to re-craft the Arts Education program at that meeting and determine what steps should be taken next.

### Strategic Plan

I hoped to be able to include an updated agency Strategic Plan here, but have not been able to get this information re-formatted in time to meet this publication deadline. We'll get it here just as soon as we can.

### League of American Historic Theatres

I am deeply honored to be asked to serve on

the Board of Directors of the League of American Historic Theatres. I hope this is an opportunity to provide some assistance to the beautiful historic theatres we have here in Montana.

### Ad Lib

I hope everyone is having a lovely spring. My schedule is such that it's doubtful I'll get to spend too much time in the flower patch in Fort Benton, but I'm going to try.

During a much-needed and very welcome vacation in early March, I picked up a *Garden Design* magazine as I began to lounge one day at the beach. Who did I see gracing the front page of the prestigious "Garden Trowel Award" section but former Hockaday director Magee Nelson and her husband, Terry, and their Morning Creek Gardens in Columbia Falls. Congratulations to them both on this marvelous honor! The closest I may get to my bed of wildflowers may be a quick visit to Terry and Magee's nursery on my way from the Glacier Orchestra to the Blackfeet Reservation at the end of the month.

### In Closing

It was a high honor for me to attend the Friday night gala opening of the Yellowstone Art Museum and the ribbon-cutting in late February. I would like to close this article with a tribute to Donna Forbes, recently retired as the Executive Director of the Yellowstone.

Donna has done so much for all the arts in Montana. Her leadership and her vision, her determination and dedication have helped to produce a most impressive monument to the extraordinary contemporary art in Montana. Certainly, Donna will be the first person to express humility and credit hundreds of others in bringing the opening of the museum to fruition. Donna's fabulous staff, the tremendous artists and community members of Billings, and a board of directors so fine that we would all like to clone them, deserve a large slice of credit in this spreading of kudos. But it is Donna who has served at the helm for these past two decades, bringing the Yellowstone to prominence first in Billings, then the region, and now nationally.

Donna, on behalf of all the artists and the arts in Montana, we wish you the happiest and most rewarding of retirements. We are deeply indebted to you. Please know that you will remain a part of all that goes forth.

## "State of the Arts" Program (from page 1)

**Who are the speakers?** Montana Arts Council members, staff, and volunteers from throughout the state.

### What's involved in being a speaker?

Each speaker receives a "kit" which comes with a 20-minute script, a list of "Frequently Asked Questions and Answers" to help the speaker field what might be commonly asked questions, evaluations, and a sheet of "Speaker's Tips". (People who wish to consider being a volunteer speaker should not be intimidated by the question and answer session. It will be perfectly acceptable to say, "I don't know the answer to that question, but will be happy to find out." Forward the question to the Arts Council, along with the name of the questioner, and we'll be happy to make sure they have the answer.)

### Is Montana really a "State of the Arts"?

You bet! One out of every 83 people in Montana's labor market is a working artist, according to the 1990 census. This totals, now, over 5,000 artists. There are well over 100 active tax-exempt arts organizations and over 200 private art galleries and festivals, in addition. And, the arts touch every part of Montana. The Montana Arts Council provides grants or services to people living in every single county in the state.

**Why a "State of the Arts" speaker's program?** The top priority of the agency's

Strategic Plan, next to funding, is to build public awareness about the value of the arts. Communication on a one-to-one level is the very best way to inform people about the importance and value of the arts in Montana. The "State of the Arts" provides an overview of the far-reaching and highly valuable impact of the arts in our state.

(Arni's note: Chas Canton of The Folkshop in Ronan spoke to the Arts Council about this idea before the funding cuts came hurtling down and we had to spend so much time trying to stay alive. MAC member Connie Clarke from Miles City also had the Public Awareness Program vision and she is responsible for bringing this program to reality. Connie worked hours and hours on this project, and we're deeply grateful to her. Barb Koostra, former executive director of the Missoula Cultural Council, worked with Connie and Arni to develop the script, and has done an absolutely marvelous job. Artist Joanna Yardley of Missoula has done a splendid job on the overheads.)

**"State of the Arts" sounds wonderful! How can I become a speaker?** It's easy! Call the Montana Arts Council at

(406) 444-6430.

**And, again, how do I book the "State of the Arts" program?** It's easy! Call the Montana Arts Council at (406) 444-6430.



## Congrats to . . .

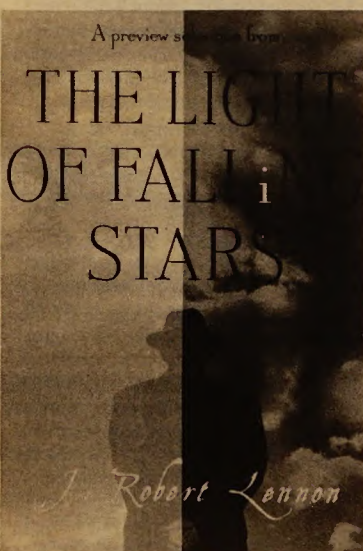
Donna Forbes, who retired March 1 from her post as director of the Yellowstone Art Museum. During her tenure at the Billings art center, Forbes presided over a \$6.2 million renovation project which transformed the museum into the largest showcase for modern art in the state. And congratulations to the new director, Marianne Lorenz, who comes to the Yellowstone Art Museum from the Dayton Art Institute in Ohio, where she worked for nearly 10 years as assistant director for collections and programs. Lorenz is widely traveled and particularly knowledgeable about Dada Art, abstract expressionism, pop art and minimalism. A native of Denver, she is also familiar with western art and trends in the region. Forbes calls the new director "capable and exciting" and predicts she will "take the museum to the next level."

Ronan resident Debra Uhls, whose steel and copper sculpture "Neutral Tech?/Cultural Nature" was recently installed on the campus of Western Wyoming Community College in Rock Springs, Wyo. Uhls graduated from the college's art foundation program, earned her BA at Montana State University and MA from Cranbrook Academy of Art in Michigan. The new work was commissioned by Pacific Steel and Recycling, John Bath Construction and the college.

First Security Bank in Bozeman, which received the Business Member of the Year Award from the Emerson Cultural Center. The bank was given a custom watercolor painting by Bob Barkell of its Main Street building in appreciation of contributions to the arts and culture in the Gallatin Valley.

Willem Volkersz, whose sculptures and drawings are on display through May 24 at the Nicolaysen Art Museum in Casper, Wyo. The Bozeman artist's show is titled "Domestic Neon".

J. Robert Lennon, who received the 1997 Barnes and Noble Discover Great New Writers Award for his debut novel *The Light of Falling Stars*. Lennon



Millennium," a national juried exhibition at the Nordic Heritage Museum in Seattle. Erickson's works were also featured in "Surface: New Form/New Function" at Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts in

Gatlinburg, Tenn., Feb. 26-April 11; the "Ecofeminism Exhibition" at the University of Montana's UC

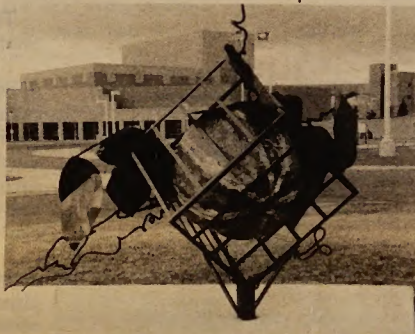


Retiring Yellowstone Art Museum director Donna Forbes, left, and new director Marianne Lorenz chat during museum grand opening.

(photo: James Woodcock/Billings Gazette)

Jan. 31; and in an upcoming exhibit at the Museum of American Folk Art in New York City.

Cowboy storyteller Red Owl Ruth Meyer of Bigfork, who was one of four first-place winners in the Canyon Country Western Arts Festival's Cowboy Poetry Rodeo. She was awarded a trophy buckle and cash prize at the annual event, held in Cedar City, Utah. Meyer will read her poems at the Symes Hotel in Hot Springs on June 13.



"Neutral Tech?/Cultural Nature" by Debra Uhls

The Studio in Whitefish, which received a major donation from the Cadeau Foundation, a philanthropic organization in Hamilton. The art center received a \$15,000 gift, with \$5,000 allocated to parking-lot improvements required by the City of Whitefish. The remaining \$10,000 is available in matching funds, which the organization hopes to raise by June 30. The funds would enable trustees to hire a director for the three-year-old art facility, says spokesman Rob Akey.

The Hockaday Center for the Arts in Kalispell, which was awarded \$1,750 by the Montana Community Foundation. Those funds will help the museum continue its Hidden Spirit Art Program, which enables "differently-abled" adults to experience "art by doing". In the past, the program has served 24-36 individuals with developmental disabilities and allowed the museum to mount an exhibition of their work.

The Arts Chateau in Butte, which received \$4,280 from the Montana Community Foundation for development of a youth museum. The grant will help the arts center create gallery spaces and project rooms designed to educate, stimulate and nurture the artistic talents of area youth. The Montana Community Foundation is a statewide public foundation that raises, invests and administers donated funds, with an emphasis on permanent endowment.

Paris Gibson Square Museum of Art in Great Falls, which received five new computers from Piper Jaffray corporate headquarters in Minneapolis. "The new computers will bring us into the 21st century and facilitate everything we do," says Bonnie Laing-Malcomson, executive director of the arts center.

C.M. Russell Museum in Great Falls, which recently received grants of \$25,000 from the Charles M. Bair Family Trust of Billings, \$5,000 from the James S. Fish Family Foundation of Minnesota, and \$3,000 from the Kingsbury Memorial Foundation of Great Falls. The Bair donation will be applied toward general operating expenses at the museum while the other grants will help fund the annual Cowboy Encampment, held Aug. 7-9.

Custer County Art Center of Miles City, which received grants of \$1,310 from the Montana Community Foundation to underwrite a traveling collection of 25 artworks; \$3,000 from the Nibs and Edna Allen Foundation for operational support; \$2,000 from the William and Lorene Nefsy Foundation and \$1,000 from the Stockman Bank of Miles City for the annual Juried Exhibit. Very Special Arts Montana is also funding clay workshops at the arts center for residents at the VA Medical Center.

## State of the Arts

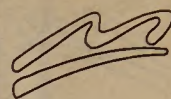
*State of the Arts* is published bimonthly by the Montana Arts Council. *State of the Arts* welcomes submissions of photographs (preferably black and white) and newsworthy information from individual artists and arts organizations. The deadline for submissions is June 1, 1998, for the July/August 1998 issue. Send items to: Montana Arts Council, 316 North Park Avenue, Suite 252; PO Box 202201, Helena, MT 59620-2201; (406) 444-6430, or fax (406) 444-6548.

All items in *State of the Arts* may be reprinted unless otherwise noted. Please credit the Montana Arts Council as well as any byline.



"By the Light of the Volcano: Hand Shadows #3" by Nancy Erickson.

Gallery, through mid-April; and "It Seams Funny to Me" at the American Museum of Quilts and Textiles in San Jose, Calif., March 12-May 3. Her work will also appear in "Figurative Fiber Art" at the Connell Gallery in Atlanta, Ga., July 11-Aug. 15; "Visions: Quilt Expressions" at the San Diego Historical Society, Nov. 7-



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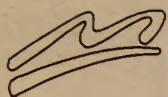
## Welcome Della!

The Montana Arts Council is pleased to announce that it has hired Della Pinkerton as the agency's administrative assistant to the executive director. Della is enthusiastic, dedicated, energetic and, as an extra bonus, she's very humorous! Most importantly, she brings excellent administrative skills to the agency.

Della is originally from Great Falls and has lived and worked in Japan, Guam, Washington, Florida, Alabama and Michigan. She has nine years of direct administrative support experience, over ten years of accounting experience, and three years of supervisory experience.

"Della puts an enthusiastic, welcoming face on the Arts Council as the person whom most of you will speak to first when you call the office," says Executive Director Ami Fishbaugh. "She has been incredibly helpful to us and we are thrilled to have her on board! Della puts the Montanans we serve first and foremost, and I think everyone will enjoy working with her immensely."





# Artrain chugs to four Montana cities

When the Artrain rolls through Montana in June, it will bring five very special boxcars to four communities.

This traveling art museum on rails, based out of Ann Arbor, Mich., will stay on a side track in Troy from June 11-14, in Missoula from June 24-28, in Livingston from July 2-5 and Billings July 9-12.

The current exhibit, "Art in Celebration!" was commissioned by the Smithsonian Associates and features works by world-renowned artists commemorating events of national and international significance since 1972. In addition, photos and biographies of the artists will be shown along with interactive displays.

The exhibition is organized around three clearly defined themes: 1) an introduction to modern art; 2) the printmaking process; and

3) the commissioning process. Artrain's facility consists of an audio-visual presentation area, three gallery cars and a studio/gift shop.

Organizers hope local arts organizations will host related activities, such as outdoor programs of music and art, while the Artrain is in town. The Missoula visit coincides with a community-wide celebration of the arts, spearheaded by the Missoula Cultural Council.

Artrain has provided its educational and artful displays to some 2.5 million people from 500 communities in 42 states. It allows people in communities that don't have access to great art to see what's available, in a unique and interesting forum.

For further details on Artrain, call the Missoula Cultural Council at 721-9620.

## ALL ABOARD!

Art in Celebration! an exhibition organized by Artrain in cooperation with The Smithsonian Associates and Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibitions Service. Artrain's national tour is sponsored by Chrysler Corporation.



Coming this June and July to Troy, Missoula, Livingston and Billings

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### MAC grant review is June 12-13 in Helena

The public is cordially invited to observe the Montana Arts Council's grant panel review meeting, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday, June 12 at the Aladdin Hotel, 2101 11th Avenue, in Helena.

Grant panels will review Organizational Excellence, Tour Fee Support, and Arts Are Central applications. All funding recommendations from the grant panels go to the full Council for their review and consideration on Saturday, June 13. That meeting takes place from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. at the City/County Building, 316 N. Park, Suite 326, and is also open to the public.

Grant applicants are encouraged to attend. This is an excellent way to learn about the grant-panel review process and improve your grant-writing skills.

## Continued from page 1

### Summit speaker

symptoms and pathologies than by their abilities and potentials. For young drug abusers, who need the support of the larger community to get clean and stay clean, this problemizing often exacerbates their sense of separation and mistrust.

"Artists, by training and practice, bring a very different and powerful perspective to their work with young people and other marginalized groups. Their focus, as creators, is on what is, and what can be, not on what is missing. This critical distinction sets the stage for young people to discover new ways of learning, communicating, working and behaving."

Cleveland is the founder and director of the Center for the Study of Art and Community in Minneapolis. Established in 1991, the center builds new working relationships between the arts and the broader community. Cleveland's 22-year history of producing arts programs in educational, community and social institutions, includes leadership of the Walker Art Center's

#### Education and Community Programs

Cleveland also began the California Arts-in-Corrections program, which has been used as a national model. With Montana's enormous struggle with the corrections budget, the California model sparks special interest because their program shows that arts programs in corrections facilities save money for the state by lowering prison violence, which reduces the need for guard overtime costs, and substantially helping to reduce recidivism (repeat offending).

His book "Art in Other Places" chronicles 22 model programs developed by artists and human services providers in 17 American communities.

The Montana Arts Council urges everyone in the arts community to encourage people from their area to participate in this Youth Summit. This Summit will provide a very effective forum to reinforce the message about the important role the arts play in the lives of all our young people.

For more information about the Governor's Youth Summit, phone (406) 444-4152.

### Arts conference

Theatre, Bozeman; and Willson & McKee, Polson. Montana artists exhibiting work in the ABB Visual Arts Showcase are: Susan Barnes, Lolo; Daniel Biehl, Steve Fox, Richard Penziner and Richard Parrish of Bozeman; Tim Holmes, Helena; and Kate Hunt, Kalispell.

ABB's pre-conference sessions on Basic Arts Management are June 25-26. Trainers

Maryo Ewell of Gunnison, Colo., and Jim Bob McMillan of Austin, Tex., bring insight and expertise to the fundamentals of arts management. Enrollment for the sessions is limited, on a first-come, first-served basis.

Special conference activities include Saturday evening dinner at Historic Fort Robinson, followed by a Post Playhouse production of "Forever Plaid".

## MAC Vision Statement

The vision of the Montana Arts Council is that now and in the future the arts will be central to the educational, economic and cultural well-being of our state.

The Council will serve as a dynamic resource and collaborative agent to provide creative leadership and to serve the public through artists, arts organizations and communities throughout Montana. The agency will provide technical and financial assistance to artists and arts organizations across the state.

The Council's leadership will be characterized by creativity, innovation, decisiveness and vision. The agency will achieve its goals through being informed and knowledgeable in concert with the needs of its constituents.

The Montana Arts Council will be known and valued for its vision in promoting education and participation in the arts.

We treasure our unique regional identity and the arts and cultural heritage of the people who make Montana their home. In recognizing Montana's rich cultural diversity, we seek to nurture the creative spirit that gives color, sound and form to our past, present and future.

—Cultural Congress/Rural Arts Roundup 1994

## ArtsREACH

(From page 1)

Through ArtsREACH, grants will be available for the following purposes:

1. To undertake a community cultural assessment and/or create a community cultural plan through a process that includes coalition-building. Assessments and plans should be geared toward encouraging artists, strengthening arts organizations, and applying cultural solutions to community needs.

2. To implement a project that is related to an existing community cultural plan. Such plans must have been created with a coalition of community partners that included artists, arts organizations, and private as well as public sectors of the community.

Under these guidelines, funding is not available for construction, purchase, or renovation of facilities; commercial (for-profit) enterprises or activities; subgranting or regranteeing; fundraising or development; or direct grants to individuals.

The program will fund community projects that strengthen cultural organizations, develop or preserve artistic resources, or apply arts-based solutions to common issues or problems.

Examples of collaborative projects which could receive support include:

- Evaluations of artistic resources for the purpose of developing informed community-based arts action plans

- Development of community directories or access guides of artists, performance and exhibition spaces, and other cultural resources including artist service organizations

- Initiatives to strengthen the working relationship between visual artists, performers, arts organizations, schools, and other community-based cultural venues, particularly for the purpose of enhancing opportunities in arts education

- Comprehensive community planning to increase cultural tourism

- Collaborations among cultural groups, the juvenile justice system and social service organizations to provide arts alternatives for at-risk youth.

Grants will range from \$3,000 to \$10,000 and require a match of at least 1-to-1. The NEA expects to award about \$500,000 during the program's pilot phase in FY 98, with future funding depending on congressional appropriations.

**Deadline and Guidelines:** ArtsREACH is administered in cooperation with Americans for the Arts. The ArtsREACH application deadline is June 26, 1998. Projects may begin after October 15, 1998. Grants awarded under these guidelines generally may cover a period of support of up to two years. Applicants should allow sufficient time to plan, execute, and close out their project.

Guidelines are available by calling the NEA at 202-682-5700 or Americans for the Arts at 1-800-733-5535.



# Fellowship Spotlight

The Montana Arts Council awarded 10 fellowships to individual artists in November of 1997. State of the Arts will spotlight each artist, beginning this month with profiles of Terry Karson and Sara Mast.

## One couple, two fellowships

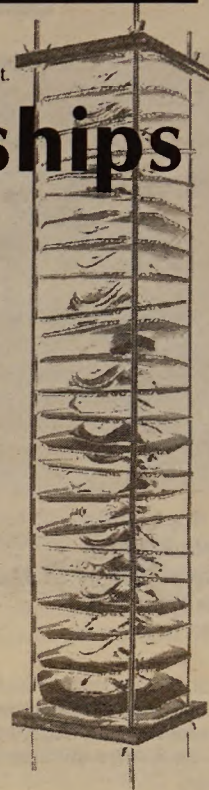
One couple – Billings residents Terry Karson and Sara Mast – received two Montana Arts Council Fellowships. While each is an accomplished artist, their collaborations are transforming galleries into gardens around the nation.

"Karson's witty, post-modernist puzzles play nicely against the heated romanticism of (Mast's) paintings," writes Bruce Richardson of a show that appeared at the Nicolaysen Art Museum in Casper, Wyo. "In fact, the whole exhibition feels like a chat, a jazz improvisation between two artists in a garden."

Recent exhibits include "Signs of Spring," in which Karson's recycled birdhouses and "Museum of Unnatural History" were paired with Mast's metaphoric paintings. The MAGDA-sponsored show traveled to three Montana museums last year. According to Jessica Hunter, curator of art at Paris Gibson Square in Great Falls, "the recycling of

objects and meanings is at the crux of the exhibit, providing a bridge between the productive realm of the garden and wasteful consumer culture."

This year, works by the couple are featured in two-person exhibitions at the Toucan Gallery in Billings and the Flanders Gallery in Minneapolis. Last year, their collaborations appeared at the Armstrong Gallery in Mount Vernon, Iowa, and Morgan Gallery in Kansas City, Mo. Their works were also part of a group exhibition at Cheney Cowles Museum in Spokane, "Two Studiūs, One Bed," which focused on 17 artist couples in the Northwest. One couple – Billings residents Terry Karson and Sara Mast – received two Montana Arts Council Fellowships. While each is an accomplished artist, their collaborations are transforming galleries into gardens around the nation.



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### Sara Mast, Visual Arts

Curator Jessica Hunter describes Sara Mast's paintings and mixed-media wall pieces as breaking down "the barrier between external environments and interior perceptions."

Mast says her work focuses on relationships – "between humans and their environment, between objects and their functions, between symbols and meaning." She often uses the metaphor of a garden "as a state of mind and as a place of action and intimate connection with the earth."

Mast earned her undergraduate degree from Cornell College in Mount Vernon, Iowa; studied painting in Italy and at the Skowhegan School in Maine; received a scholarship to the New York Studio School; and earned her MFA from Queens College in Flushing, N.Y.

She is currently an adjunct art instructor for Montana State University-



"Redwing," encaustic and mixed media, by Sara Mast.

Billings and Rocky Mountain College. Mast also participates in Artist in the Schools programs, including "Poets on the Prairie," sponsored by the Writer's Voice project.

In addition to exhibitions with her husband, Mast's paintings were featured in the Art Museum of Missoula's auction exhibit this year and were part of the Wild Woman Salon, an invitational show at the Morgan Gallery in Kansas City in 1997. In 1996, her work appeared in the Great Garbage Binge Art Show at the Emerson Cultural Center in Bozeman and a group invitational at Sutton West Gallery in Missoula. In 1995, she had a solo exhibit at The Women's Center in Billings and was part of the group invitational, "Artists Who Teach," at Paris Gibson Square Museum of Art in Great Falls.

### Terry Karson, Visual Arts

In his own words, Karson's "Museum of Unnatural History" and inventive birdhouses "explore the issues surrounding the wasteful demands of society and the culture and the contrasting needs of nature and environmental preservation."

Karson earned his BFA from the Kansas City Art Institute and an MFA from Montana State University. He was curator for the Yellowstone Art Center from 1990-1993 and since 1995 has been a visiting artist for The Writer's Voice Project's "Poets on the Prairie".

In 1996, Karson participated in the Glass Walls project at Montana State Women's Correctional Center in Billings, where inmates designed and produced four large etched-glass windows. He was also the recipient of a 1997 Montana Arts Council grant to establish a permanent art program at the prison.

His work has appeared in more than 40 exhibitions, including several



Specimens, mixed media, by Terry Karson.

collaborative shows with his wife. Last year, his work was included in "Anything Goes: A Postcard Show" at Toucan Gallery in Billings; in 1996, his sculptures were part of "The Great Garbage Binge Show" at the Emerson Cultural Center in Bozeman and an invitational outdoor exhibition at the Southern Vermont Art Center in Manchester, Vt.; in 1995, he participated in "Artists Who Teach" at Paris Gibson Square and "Contemporary Sculpture at Chesterwood" in Stockbridge, Mass.

Karson recently curated the "Gennie DeWeese Retrospective," a traveling MAGDA exhibit, and has produced 15 curatorial publications, including a catalogue for the "Gennie DeWeese Retrospective" and brochures for "Tom Rippon: Ceramic Sculpture," "L.A. Huffman Photographs," and "Bill Stockton: A Retrospective". He also writes art reviews for the *Billings Outpost*.

### Donations sought for Railway Memorial

Alex Hasson, head of the Railway Memorial Project, is seeking donations for a sculpture that will memorialize fallen railway workers and their families. The bronze statue will sit in BN Credit Union Park, near the train depot and historical museum in Whitefish.

John Pettis, a resident artist at Kalispell Art Casting, was commissioned to create the monument. Pettis will also sculpt smaller, limited edition versions of the statue. Sales of these sculptures will help offset the monument expense, estimated at \$45,000. Donations are also welcome.

The memorial will also feature an inscription, written by railroader and poet John Bartlett. Dedication is tentatively slated for Labor Day, 1998.

For more information, write to Railway Memorial Project, 1415 Berne Road, Columbia Falls, MT 59912.





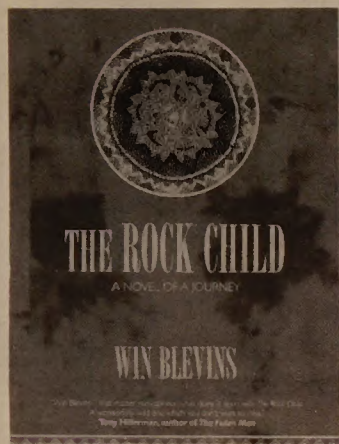
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### Livingston hosts new writers conference

The Show Case Writers' Guild has invited some of the finest writers in the region to lead the Yellowstone Writers' Conference, June 17-20 at St. Mary's Catholic School in Livingston.

The four-day workshop offers classes in fiction, non-fiction, poetry, screen-writing and the editorial process. The faculty includes Tim Cahill, Alston Chase, William Hjortsberg, James Crumley, Martha Elizabeth, Ken McCullough, Scott McMillion, Lynette Dodson, Annick Smith, Allen Jones, Paul Zarzyski, Greg Keeler, Dr. Larry Lahre, Toby Thompson and Walter Kim. Readers are William Kittredge, David McCumber, Jo Sykes, Gwen Peterson and Patricia Bauer-Miller.

The conference costs \$400, which includes classroom instruction, panel interaction, meals and entertainment. Class size is limited to nine students per faculty member. For more information, call director Patricia Miller at 406-222-6564 or write Yellowstone Writers' Conference, P.O. Box 1356, Livingston, MT 59047.



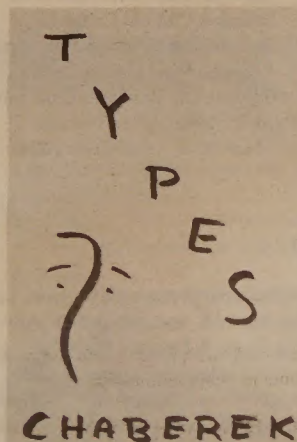
**The Rock Child**  
by Win Blevins  
January 1998 by St. Martin's Press,  
New York, N.Y.  
\$24.95 hardcover

Pulitzer Prize nominee and master storyteller Win Blevins has produced another dazzling work with *The Rock Child*, a combination of 1860s-era Western adventure and metaphysical musings.

Combining an unlikely assortment of characters, Blevins delves into the quests of very different people. Asie Taylor is a half-blood Native American, who is rescued from near-drowning by Sun Moon, a Tibetan Buddhist nun sold into prostitution in America. They meet up with Sir Richard Burton, a famous British explorer and drug addict, as well as Mormon leader Brigham Young and noted American novelist Samuel "Mark Twain" Clemens.

Meanwhile, Porter Rockwell, the Destroying Angel of the Mormon Church, does his best to kill them.

*Stone Song*, Blevins' novel about the legendary Lakota warrior Crazy Horse, received great critical acclaim and was nominated for the Pulitzer. The Montana writer, whose passions are stories, mountains and music, has produced 12 books.



**Types**  
by Ed Chaberek  
1998 by Superior Poetry Press  
\$2 pamphlet paperback

In the tradition of old-time pamphleteering, Ed Chaberek of Superior has produced a modest-looking collection of his poems that nonetheless packs a good deal of emotional punch.

*Types* is a collection of poems ranging from the very brief "Buddhism" - "Grasshopper Leaps -/Toad Sits/(Mouth Open.)" - to longer pieces. Topics are varied, ranging from an episode about a stoned-out teen who inadvertently wanders into a revival tent, to a description of bums hanging out beneath a bridge.

Chaberek intends to publish other small books of poetry by regional poets in the future.



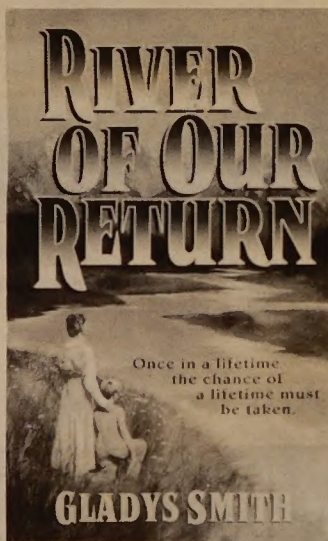
**My Mama Always Said ....**  
*Advice Good and Bad from Mothers Everywhere*  
Edited and compiled by Faith Brynie  
1998 by Verity West  
\$8.95 softcover

From the poignant to the profound, advice from mothers around the world is included in this compilation by Faith Brynie of Bigfork.

Also included in this sometimes moving, sometimes hilarious collection are bits of wisdom that proved disastrous, showing that mothers don't *always* have all the right answers.

The 66 tales and short verses were inspired by a letter to Brynie from her daughter, thanking her for her motherly advice. She subsequently solicited stories from around the world and got them, in droves.

From "All God's Children," a short piece about handicapped children, to "Ten Rules for Ladies ... Who Want to Catch a Man," *My Mama Always Said* is an entertaining compendium of maternal advice.

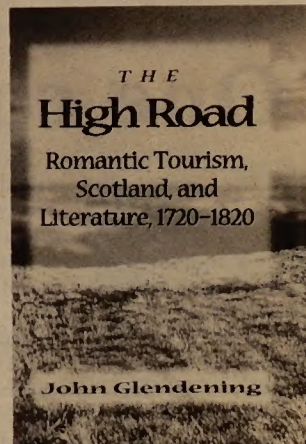


**River of Our Return**  
by Gladys Smith  
March 1998 by Harper Paperbacks  
\$5.99 paperback

In the wild and rugged reaches of Idaho's Salmon River Canyon in 1901, a recently widowed woman forms a powerful bond with an eight-year-old runaway boy and the great uncle he has come to find.

The journey of discovery and adventure these three make by boat on the violently treacherous "River of No Return" provides romance, love, loyalty and high drama. Montana writer Gladys Smith's first novel is a tale about people far removed from civilization and intimately bound to the power of the Earth.

Smith taught in rural schools for 31 years. She lives in Hamilton with her husband, John, two Labrador retrievers and a host of wild birds.



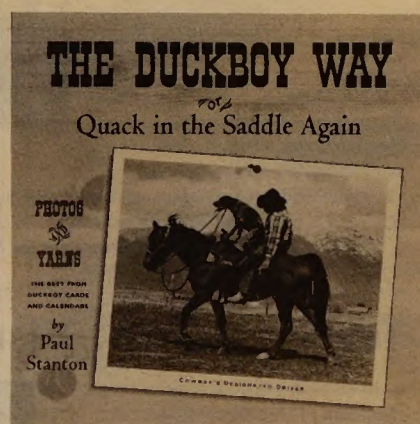
**The High Road**  
by John Glendening  
St. Martin's Press, Spring 1997  
\$45 hardcover

The scenic and historic places of Scotland blossom into life in John Glendening's *The High Road: Romantic Tourism, Scotland, and Literature, 1720-1820*.

Six accounts of Scottish travel, notable both for their literary quality and the status of their authors, speak of an era when tourism was in its infancy and yet already on the way to becoming the multibillion-dollar industry that it is today. In its pages, the parallels of purpose between travelers then and now become readily apparent.

Included are four Scottish literary tours by English authors Daniel Defoe, Samuel Johnson, William and Dorothy Wordsworth and John Keats, written for audiences during the era of King George, when travel to scenic Scotland came into vogue.

Glendening, an assistant professor of English at the University of Montana, is of Scottish ancestry himself.



**The Duckboy Way**  
Photos and Yarns by Paul Stanton  
1997 by Falcon Press, Helena  
\$9.95 softcover

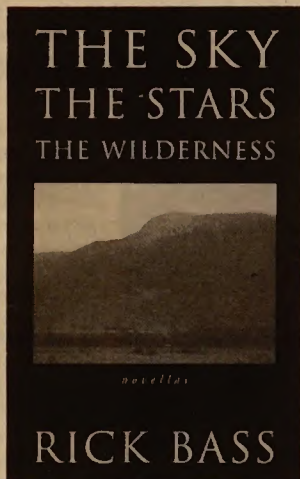
For those who haven't seen Paul Stanton's Duckboy Cards, it's a bit difficult to describe their humor. After all, a picture is worth a thousand words.

But photographic images like "Cowboy's Designated Driver" (a dog on horseback, in front of his passed-out human), or "Training a Bird Dog" (dog on shore watching human in water with a duck in his mouth), are certain to illicit a few chuckles. This collection of black and white photos and tall tales satirizes loggers, yuppies, cowboys, politicians, gun enthusiasts, coffee junkies and more.

Stanton, who lives in Milltown (east of Missoula), was the recipient of a MAC Individual Artist Fellowship for radio humor in 1986.



# Books & Music



**The Sky, The Stars, The Wilderness**  
by Rick Bass  
October 1997 by Houghton Mifflin, Boston  
\$23 hardcover

In his latest book, Yaak Valley writer Rick Bass returns to the realm of fiction with three novellas, stories that once again encompass the natural world and humans' relationship with it.

In the title story, a woman returns to the Texas farm that has been in her family for generations, realizing that soon, all that will be left of her family is the land. In "The Myths of the Bears," a man tracks his wife through a winter wilderness as she both lures and eludes him. Finally, an ancient ocean in the Appalachian foothills becomes a battleground for a wildcat oilman and his aging mentor in "Where the Sea Used to Be".

Bass has been hailed as one of the best writers of his generation, a master wordsmith who fills his pages with a deep passion for wild places. The scope of his creativity in fiction is remarkable. He is the author of 11 books of fiction and non-fiction, and lives with his family in the remote northwest corner of Montana.

Over Homestead Pass on ...

## THE BUTTE SHORT LINE

The Construction Era 1888-1929



by  
Bill & Jan Taylor

**The Butte Short Line**  
by Bill and Jan Taylor  
Pictorial Histories Publishing Co., Missoula  
\$19.95 softcover

Little more than a century ago, travel in Montana was still a significant problem due to the ruggedness of the western mountains. In *The Butte Short Line*, Missoula authors Bill and Jan Taylor take a look at early efforts to find a route to Butte, the "richest hill on Earth," and over the top of the Continental Divide.

Rich in history and anecdotes, this book tells the story of human struggles and the wars between competing railroad interests.

Bill Taylor teaches English at Big Sky High School in Missoula and his wife, Jan, is a former German teacher and coach. The couple shares a deep interest in Montana history, reflected in the thoroughness of their research. This is their first book.

**Out Beyond Ideas**  
by Mandir  
(formerly the Matthew  
Marsolek Group)  
Recorded by  
Satsung Music,  
Arlee



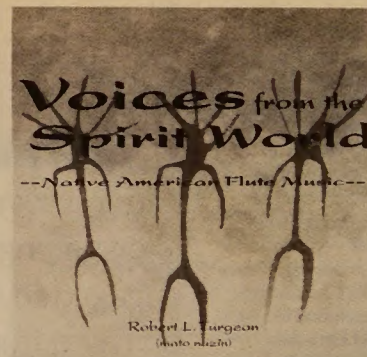
In Mandir's first album, Sanskrit prayers and the incantations of an ancient poet meet the voices, instruments and technology of a new millennium. The ensemble, which debuted in 1994 as the Matthew Marsolek Group, began 1997 with the commitment to spend more time making music.

The result is a new name - Mandir, meaning "temple" - and a CD, *Out Beyond Ideas*, released in April and produced by Phillip Aaberg. Mandir is composed of brothers Matthew and Michael Marsolek, Lawrence Duncan and Beth Youngblood-Petersen. Three members (minus Beth) are also part of Drum Brothers.

While the two groups share talent and an affinity for world music, Mandir retreats from the Drum Brothers' emphasis on poly-rhythms and glides toward a complex fusion of voices and instruments. Michael Marsolek's lush percussion (he plays a veritable jungle of drums) is backdrop to interlacing melodies: the bassoon and saxophone riffs of Lawrence Duncan, the string aplomb of violinist Youngblood-Petersen, and Matthew Marsolek on acoustic and classical guitars.

Matthew composed the album's 10 songs - which each reflect a sense of the sacred. Several are inspired by the sounds and sights of India; others are suffused with the rhythms of West Africa. The CD was recorded at Michael Blessing's studio near Bozeman, and mixed and mastered at Spark Studios in Emeryville, Calif., with engineer Jon Vigran. It's available at music stores throughout Montana.

**Voices from the Spirit World**  
Native American  
Flute Music  
by Robert Turgeon  
Recorded by  
Standing Bear Music,  
Helena



Helena flute player Robert Turgeon embarks on a mystical tour of an ancient world with his new CD.

Wooden flute, chanting, gourd rattles, drums and nature sounds mix with the voices of crickets, chirping birds, crying loons and howling coyotes. The resulting blend is serene, mysterious and intimately grounded in a Native American tradition.

Turgeon, who describes his style as "old-age," says years of living and learning with Indian people have shaped his music. The flutist is finding receptive audiences throughout America and the world with his evocative and mesmerizing sound, which has been used by some in conjunction with physical therapy and acupuncture.

He began his musical career at the age of 14 in Havre, when his father bought him a Fender electric guitar. That led to his participation in a teenage rock 'n' roll band, and his development as an accomplished rhythm, lead and bass guitarist. Later he tried his hand at the banjo and bluegrass.

Finally he discovered the Native American flute, and was hooked. Turgeon, who is of Native American descent, took to the wooden, end-blown instrument quickly, learning in part from Lakota Sioux flutist Tony Sherea.

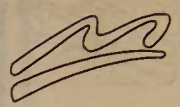
The artist plans a second CD release later this year, *Shaman's Journey*. Call 406-475-9220 for details.

**Shadows**  
By Dorothy Larson

*Shadows*, a recently published book of poems by Dorothy Weston Larson, includes more of her popular illustrations, which the author calls "unpaintables".

This book completes Larson's Montana Trilogy, which also includes *As Shadows on the Hills* and *Bright Shadows*, two historical novels that also feature illustrations by the author.

Each of the three books is available from bookstores across Montana or from Sandstone, 2710 Sunnyview Lane, Billings, MT 59102.



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## Heritage is topic of new essay contest

Montana students in grades 7-12 are invited to submit essays on state history and heritage for a contest sponsored by the Dennis and Phyllis Washington Foundation, the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail Interpretive Center and the Portage Route Chapter.

The deadline for entry is May 9. Interested students should contact their school counselor or history teacher.

Essay entries for 1998 must address why the Lewis and Clark Expedition was successful, in honor of that historic journey's bicentennial. Awards will be given to students in grades 7-9 and 10-12, with writers of the top three essays in each group receiving scholarships of \$1,250, \$1,000 and \$750 respectively.

Winning students will be honored at a reception in Great Falls on July 3 as part of the grand opening of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail Interpretive Center.





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### Some thoughts on the arts...

"The lesson of the 20th century is that science and technology will not save us from ourselves...."

"The danger we face is that short-term technological development will continue to enrich society without being balanced by a long-term commitment to the arts and humanities. We will be able to do more and more, better and better while forgetting why."

"If we cannot share our cultural advances and advantages with everyone, we will be making trouble for ourselves. Our focus must be on the total human environment for the simple reason that if we insist on evaluating everything simply in terms of immediate technological ability and monetary worth, we will fashion for ourselves only a very efficient and expensive permanent demise."

— James F. Welles,  
*The Story of Stupidity*

## Montana Heritage Project

# Want to improve test scores? Aim higher

by Michael Umphrey

Test scores seem to be on everybody's minds lately. Last week I got a survey from an education agency that was gathering data about "community-based" education programs. They wanted to know how the Montana Heritage Project was "using community" to increase test scores.

I thought that the question had an answer, but not one that fit on their form. Last month the students taught by Phil Leonardi and Annemarie Kanenwisher in Corvallis gave their community a gift in the form of a Heritage Evening. It was stunning. It featured both the latest technology — a powerpoint presentation — and the most ancient — storytelling. Their multimedia presentation wove together art, science, reading and writing. They used oral history tapes as well as hundreds of historical photographs they had collected into inspirational scripts written and narrated by students dealing with such topics as "friendship" and "adversity".

These themes weren't developed only through vague platitudes. They were developed by actual stories, such as the time the local school burned early in the Great Depression. One woman told what it meant to leave behind the new coat she got for Christmas and to dash out in the sub-zero winter weather, and of how the community pulled together and moved on afterward.

Two-hundred people from the community sat in the audience and were reminded by their children of some important things about what it means to make a life in Corvallis, Montana. Two-hundred community members came to celebrate and applaud high quality academic work. I suspect the kids in Corvallis are finding more motivation to study and learn than they're likely to find because some committee has decided the nation or the state or the school district wants higher test scores.

No doubt test scores have their uses, but they are limited uses, and in any case we are not going to agree enough about what to do about them to make real changes. The topic is so controversial that any proposal is immediately met with a dozen counter proposals, and each of those is quickly met by another dozen. Education has not progressed much by yoking its destiny to these measures, the meaning of which can and will be endlessly debated.

Let's change the subject. Better conversations, such as those going on in Corvallis, by themselves constitute an advance toward better education. In fact, the real secret of improving the education of our young may be as simple (and as hard) as surrounding them with better conversations and inviting them to join. Communities that study their problems, research alternatives, experiment with solutions and talk honestly about what they are learning are more intelligent communities than communities that do none of these things, and more intelligent communities can be expected to raise more intelligent children.

We can discuss with each other, including our youth, such questions as how we should live in our various communities. How can education — not just school instruction for kids but real

advances in knowledge and understanding — help all our citizens? How can we make such advances more likely? How can we involve students in working on such advances with us? How can we meet the current educational crisis, which is, we are told, the emergence of an eat-or-be-eaten global economy around us? How will we survive?

Contemporary talk about test scores is usually linked to fearful prophecies about the global economy, but those who know Montana's

To face the next century, we might do well to see that the young and the old in our communities take care of one another, and that the young learn from the old in as many formal and informal situations as we can manage. The community itself learns and remembers and adapts to new situations mostly through the association of the young with the old.

Teachers throughout the state are helping with this work, but by its very nature it can't be left to specialists in the schools. Community members need to take personal responsibility for helping. We have not finished learning how to live in Montana. We are newcomers and the world here is still young.

Each new generation of Montanans has found a new world, changed by the actions of their predecessors. Even the culture of the Plains Indians was a relatively recent cultural improvisation, and tens of thousands of horses that created a new human possibility for living with the land also destabilized the bison populations, eating the vital grass in the river valleys. The culture developed as each new crisis



Community members at the Heritage Evening in Corvallis examine some of the hundreds of historical photographs the students have collected.

history know that we have always faced some crisis here. How do we meet this latest challenge of large-scale changes in the markets? Part of the answer might be the same one Montanans have arrived at in the past: by working together, in communities. A healthy community working creatively and thoughtfully will be a far stronger unit of survival in the global economy than will be any individual struggling to vanquish his neighbors in some mad scramble for whatever bright tokens are tossed among them.

Such communities don't happen automatically. A good community is a creation, willed moment to moment, by knowledgeable individuals. The work of community can be learned and taught, and an important goal of education could be how to make the

creation, the willing of good communities more likely.

Fortunately, this is a goal which has few opponents and for which we can devise and implement practical means. Reaching it involves passing on quite a lot of knowledge, and, we may hope, some wisdom. A good community, Wendell Berry notes, "would... pass on to its children the large culture's inheritance of book learning. But also, both at home and at school, it would want its children to acquire a competent knowledge of local geography, ecology, history, natural history, and of local songs and stories."

This is the work Heritage teachers are attempting. And this is what the *Lakeshore Country Journal* said earlier this year about the project Mary Sullivan did in Bigfork: her class "experienced education as a joyous process that inspired new levels of creativity, built bridges and established long-lasting connections between people and generations... because of Mary Sullivan, a talented group of English students have had a life-enhancing learning experience. Just as importantly, our community has re-established and fortified the common bonds between us, the ones that make us aware of our humanity and provide the essential glue of a well-functioning society."

emerged.

This process goes on today. T.S. Eliot reminded us that "culture is something that must grow; you cannot build a tree, you can only plant it, and care for it, and wait for it to mature in its due time." In a similar vein, Alan Jabbour, director of the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress, opened the first summer institute of the Montana Heritage Project by asking us to remember that "culture is not something you have. It's something you do."

Real and durable cultural improvements often take time. Sometimes we need to plant the grass and wait for it to grow to feed the sheep to get the wool we need for a new suit. The important thing is to remember what we are trying to do. What we are really trying to do with education, I hope, is to make our communities better places to live by making sure they are populated by thoughtful, knowledgeable, and skillful people. Maybe even, with luck, by wise people.

Will it improve test scores? One of the things good teachers know is that when you aim for higher things — wisdom and knowledge, for example — you tend to get the lower things, grades and test scores, as well. But when you aim at the lower things, you often don't even get them. No one gets up in the morning eager to get about the work of adding a few points to their achievement test results.

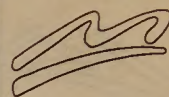
But as young people see that the community wants them and needs them, and that they belong there, and that there is a place for every one of them and important work for every one of them to do, and as they are brought respectfully into conversations about the challenges they face, they begin wanting answers. They begin to reach for tools. Some of the tools are history, some are English, some are art, and some are science.

The way communities can improve test scores is by getting people engaged in real work on more important matters.

The Montana Heritage Project is funded by the Liz Claiborne and Art Ortenberg Foundation. Teachers or schools that want more information should contact the project at P.O. Box 672; St. Ignatius, MT 59865 (406-745-2600) or visit [www.edheritage.org](http://www.edheritage.org).



# Artists in the Schools



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## Corvallis kids immersed in poetry

Writer Melissa Kwasny introduced the world of poetry to sixth-grade students in Corvallis last winter. As poet-in-residence, Kwasny taught five language-arts classes. Her week-long stay in Corvallis was made possible by the Montana Arts Council, with support from the Corvallis Public School and Teller Wildlife Refuge.

Kwasny lives in Jefferson City (south of Helena) and teaches with the Missoula Writing Collaborative as well as the Artists in the Schools/Communities Program.

Teacher Maeta Kaplan praised Kwasny as an inspiration for her students and herself. "She is truly a master teacher, and I watched my students' writing grow daily as she worked with them," Kaplan said. "As a teacher, I believe I gained more from watching, listening and working with Melissa than I could in any class or from any book on teaching poetry."

Kaplan said the week was full of surprises, with shy children volunteering to read their work in public and parent volunteers developing new rapport with students. "I found that some of the students who face significant reading and writing challenges turned out to be very strong poets who captured imagery in new and exciting ways," she added.

The week culminated in a poetry reading by about 30 sixth graders. A sampling of student writing follows.

### Grandfather

I can see my grandfather on  
the back porch rocking back  
and forth singing songs in  
his head  
Thinking of the time when  
he was a young man  
getting into mischief and  
playing games.  
I can see my grandfather  
in his old torn cowboy  
boots saying things are  
never gone they're just out

of use. I can see  
my grandfather laying in  
his death bed saying  
things are never gone they're  
just put to use.

— Michael McCabe

### What I Do

I am from a place that in summer  
you hay, with the smell of alfalfa.  
I am from a place that in the winter  
you have to feed, oats and alfalfa  
hay.

I live where there is strange  
machinery  
like swathers, rakes, tractors and  
more.

I touch and feel the coarse hair of  
cows and the soft hair of calves.  
Around my house it is usually  
mucky.

I am from the country.  
I am a rancher.

— Cody Harbrige

### From the Land

I am from hugs and kisses,  
deer jerky and yes, ma'am,  
southern foods and movies,  
baked beans and sweet  
potatoes.

I am from pancakes in the  
morning and tacos at night.  
From vast forests and mountains,  
to deep and dirty water,  
mean sister and loving brother.  
I come from shining rainbows,  
towering rocks and overbearing  
weeds,  
cold showers and slow school.  
From snowflakes and lemon  
drops  
that melt above the chimney  
tops.

— Kiah Whaley



Young artists Jesse Klein and Carlos Masis prepare their clay work for firing.

## Young Artists' Studio brings kids and artists together

When federal funding for the arts was drastically cut in 1991, many small elementary schools had to cut out their arts programs entirely. It was about this time that Jeanne Close Wagner, a visual artist from Billings, formed the Young Artists' Studio in that community.

The program is still alive and thriving, offering kids in grades 1-8 a chance to learn a variety of skills from artists and crafters in numerous media - architecture, clay, acrylics, pastels, stained glass and more. In so doing, the young students have learned the creative and life-enhancing experience of expressing themselves through art.

Fall and spring semesters feature 10 Saturday sessions, and summer sessions offer five consecutive weekday sessions starting in late June. At the end of each semester, students display their creations for the public. Scholarships are available for those who cannot afford tuition. The program also involves local high school and college art students, who assist the participating professional instructors.

Since fall of 1995, Young Artists' Studio has called MSU-Billings its home, and has reached out further into surrounding communities to draw students. Some 125 students participated last spring, and more than 30 artisans currently lend their expertise to the aspiring young artists.

Two years ago, the program began offering instruction in the art of cultures around the world, including fused-glass jewelry of ancient Greece, patterned beadwork of African and Native American tribes, Japanese painting on rice paper with India ink, and other forms. Students even utilized a computer to create an animated feature. Other thematic programs have included mold-making, 'island creating' using natural materials, Native American drum-making, and artwork using photographic techniques.

Student-teacher ratios are very low, ranging from 3-1 to 6-1, and artisans work for a fraction of their real professional worth in order to promote the development of artistic interest in young people.

For more information on this program, and the upcoming summer session which begins June 15, call Wagner at 252-7362.

### Arts belong at the center of our culture

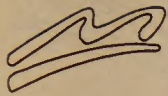
"Our culture will be known and remembered by its arts. If we hope that our legacy will have the esteem of great ages past, we must place the arts at the center of our culture and at the center of our learning."

— Gordon M. Ambach,  
Executive  
Director,  
Council of  
Chief State  
School Officers



Students Debbie Kleinsasser and Gideon Waldner wield paint brushes at the Fairhaven Hutterite Colony. Great Falls artist Grayce Holzheimer helped youngsters create a mural during an Artist in the Schools Residency this winter.





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## Poetry contest names winners

Four Montana poets took top honors in the Mary Brennan Clapp Memorial Poetry Contest, sponsored by Montana Arts.

Sixty-six poets each entered three poems with a maximum of 100 lines.

Montana Arts sent the entries, minus entrants' names to this year's judge, poet Melissa Kwasny in Jefferson City. She made the following awards:

- First Place (\$50): Carolyn Pettit, Bozeman — "Love Song Past Midlife," "The Harrison Roses," and "Moodswing".
- Second Place (\$40): Rande Mack, Manhattan — "some poets," "rainbow skin," "twelve months/thirteen days".
- Third Place (\$30): Sheila Ruble, Billings — "Absence," "Flamenco Dancer," and "Camouflage".
- Honorable Mention (\$20): Anne Sawyer Harris, Billings — "Patricia Street Summer," "Refuge," and "How the Cold Doesn't Scare".

The annual contest is open to Montana poets and is a memorial to the late Mary Brennan Clapp, a talented poet and faculty member of the University of Montana English Department.

## CELEBRATION OF SIMILARITIES

# Appalachia meets the Rocky Mountain Front

Choteau's Prairie Mountain Players have shaped a play from people and landscape — an affable mix of friends and family, set against the jagged juncture of plain and mountain.

At the same time, Roadside Theater and the Mullins Family Singers forged a tale of Appalachia through music and theater. This spring, the two troupes premiered their new plays — first in Kentucky and Virginia, then in Choteau.

Call it a cultural exchange.

But really, the collaboration between Roadside Theater and the Prairie Mountain Players is a celebration of similarities — a recognition of the ways in which stories and music bind family and community.

In Choteau, the process began in 1992, with the Montana Story Project (an offshoot of the American Festival Project). Together, the Prairie Mountain Players and the Choteau Performing Arts League began gathering and recording local stories.

Roadside Theater entered the picture five years ago, when the Virginia and Kentucky-based troupe performed in Montana. Roadside playwright Ron Short helped the Purple Mountain Players transform these hometown tales into their first play, "The Coming Home: The Anniversary". The production told "a little bit about the place, and more about the spirit, the people," says director Myrna Paulis. "The process was more important than the product."

With help from a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts, the two theatre groups began planning a cultural exchange. The Choteau troupe traveled to Kentucky and Virginia in March, where they performed an original play, "The Coming Home: The

Reunion," that focuses on a Fourth of July family reunion.

Like their first production, it traces community history through the stories of a particular family. "The Coming Home" has a 20-member cast, ranging in age from nine to 60. Stories are swapped, to the accompaniment of a musical score that swings from cowboy tunes to a *cappella* choral music.

The set for the play was lost enroute to Kentucky. But the show went on anyway.

That longevity is a theme in "New Ground Revival," which traces the prolific Mullins' family tree clear back to Adam and Eve. "Yep, they was Mullins...We're all kin."

The play is a collection of family memories and stories, gathered in a "story circle". And, befitting a play that's centered around a family of singers, the production includes 15 original songs and 26 "singings," or segments of traditional Appalachian tunes.

"You want to know how somebody thinks, ask 'em to tell you a story. You want to know how they feel, get 'em to sing you a song," audience members are told. According to performer Scott Mullins, the play helped him discover "the rich cultural heritage that we have, and understand how valuable that is."

Myrna Paulis has a similar story to tell. "This is something we really believe in," she says. "I grew up in a family where my dad told stories. My family was fascinating, in the same way that everyone's family is fascinating."

"Some stories never make it into the history

book, but they deserve not to be lost," she adds. "Besides, if we don't tell our history, someone else will come in and do it."

The Prairie Mountain Players are eager to share the process and play with other communities. For more information about a live production or a video presentation, call 406-466-2857 or 466-2885.

— Kristi Niemeyer  
for *State of the Arts*



The Mullins Family Singers of Virginia are the centerpiece of a new play by Roadside Theater, which premiered April 18-19 in Choteau.

"It just got people to use their imaginations," says Paulis.

Meanwhile, Roadside Theater and the acclaimed Mullins Family Singers have woven their region's music and family stories into a new musical about life in Dickenson County, Va.

The Mullins Family has been singing together for the past 50 years, in a tradition formalized in 1946 when the Rev. Hie Mullins created the Mullins Family Trio.



"Some stories never make it into the history book, but they deserve not to be lost. Besides, if we don't tell our history, someone else will come in and do it."

— Myrna Paulis

The Prairie Mountain Players rehearse an original play, based on Choteau stories.

# NEA budget proposal presented to Congress

The Clinton Administration has proposed to spend \$136 million on the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) in FY99 — a 39-percent increase over the FY98 allocation.

NEA Senior Deputy Chair Scott Shanklin-Peterson discussed the proposed budget during House and Senate subcommittee hearings on March 12 and March 26. She said the new budget would help the NEA "address serious concerns raised by Congress about the geographic distribution of direct NEA grants," strengthen the Endowment's leadership efforts on behalf of arts education and

preserving cultural heritage, and help ensure broad access to the arts.

She stressed efforts to spread the geographic reach of direct NEA grants through a new ArtsReach grant program and a more geographically diverse population of panel appointments. Shanklin-Peterson also discussed a Folk Arts Infrastructure Initiative, Millennium projects designed to serve all 50 states and efforts to emphasize "multi-state" grants that support national grants and touring efforts.

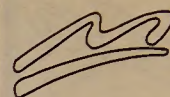
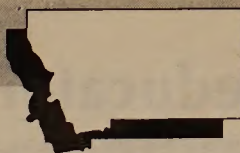
While the testimony was received

cordially by subcommittee members who attended the hearing, there was little hope expressed for any additional money going to the NEA next year. The House Appropriations Committee is expected to complete drafting the FY99 budget in May, with floor votes taking place in June.

Also pending is the approval of William J. Ivey, nominated by President Clinton in February to serve as the next Chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts. His nomination is currently before the Senate Committee on Labor and Human Resources.



## CULTURAL TOURISM IN MONTANA



## The Connecticut model emphasizes heritage...

When Bruce Fraser came to Montana last month, he viewed it as an opportunity to espouse the virtues of "cultural heritage tourism" to a new audience at the Governor's Conference on Tourism.

But first, he visited friends who own a ranch near White Sulphur Springs. "What started as a sort of academic exercise became a very powerful experience," he says. "I began to understand the incredible stories you have to tell."

Fraser has triumphs of his own to tout. The filmmaker, author and member of the Connecticut Humanities Council has been instrumental in a successful movement to develop cultural tourism in his home state. In 1995, a coalition of museums, historical societies and tourism organizations secured a \$1 million annual appropriation from the state legislature to support cultural heritage initiatives.

That money goes to strategic planning, technical assistance, marketing and implementation of specific projects. In other words, it helps build the infrastructure that most cultural and arts groups lack.

The potential income from cultural tourism was a big carrot, explains Fraser.

"These tourists are extremely economically advantaged – it's the high-end market."

And when the tourism industry in Connecticut began to look at ways to appeal to that market, it focused on the historical museums and attractions in the state. "What the industry

**"The 'West' is a powerful thing for eastern people. If any state can convey 'West,' it's Montana."**

– Bruce Fraser

imagined were vibrant institutions, I knew were institutions that were barely keeping their doors open."

When hotel/motel owners realized that "product development" – meaning an investment in cultural institutions – was essential to the growth of cultural tourism, "they became our strongest ally," says Fraser.

"Cultural heritage tourists expect authenticity. They are seeking experiences that are real, true, powerful," he explains. "You have to raise your standards to satisfy these people."

In Connecticut, the Humanities Council became "the gatekeeper" for the cultural heritage appropriation. "Someone has to stand up and say, 'We'll guarantee quality'."

Fraser says the following factors have helped cultural tourism thrive in Connecticut:

- Seeing cultural institutions as key players, and understanding their needs
- Putting history and heritage first
- Building a positive relationship with the arts
- Insisting on high standards
- Emphasizing product

development

- Adequate funding
- Quality control

The final ingredient is patience. "It takes a long time to get folks to change their way of thinking."

But Fraser is confident that Montana has all the makings of a mecca for cultural tourists. "The 'West' is a powerful thing for eastern people," he said. "If any state can convey 'West,' it's Montana."

## Shouldn't Montana's model embrace the arts, too?

I was part tourist myself, sitting in a room full of arts and humanities advocates and hotel/motel owners at the Governor's Conference on Tourism, held last month in Kalispell.

The focus was cultural tourism – the new big thing that might somehow bring an infusion of money to our beleaguered cultural institutions.

First, I'm a reporter, trying to scribble notes as fast as words are uttered. The spoken word, I've learned, always wins this race.

And I'm a business person, part owner of an arts and entertainment paper that gives a snapshot each month of Montana's cultural offerings (symphonies and theatre mingle with powwows and rodeos on our pages).

But like a tourist, I also try to observe, to catch some glimmer of meaning. And what I saw at the session on cultural tourism was both hopeful and troubling.

I was encouraged by the conversation itself. It's no surprise that cultural tourists are "financially advantaged" and willing to part with a portion of that wealth in exchange for "authentic experience."

But what alarmed me was a rift that the speaker, Bill Fraser of the Connecticut Council for the Humanities, described, then

**We're in trouble only when we try to sever one limb from the other, to make art and heritage stand on opposite sides of the room.**

proceeded to widen. First, he told us that different regions have different definitions of "cultural tourism". Los Angeles focuses on the arts, for example, with history as a sidebar. Connecticut and Arizona both emphasize heritage, with history at the heart of the process. And Vermont tries to make room for both the arts and history.

As money for and interest in cultural tourism increases, the definitions of "culture" become more contentious. "It would be lovely if someone managed to pull all the constituent parts into a true collaborative process," he said.

Moments later, Fraser listed a component of Connecticut's cultural heritage program as "putting history and heritage

first...The arts are a really good thing to involve in the process, but I perceive them as peripheral."

Well, that statement sure doesn't set the stage for a "true collaborative process." And Montana's cultural community needs all the collaboration it can get, especially on the heels of the last legislative session.

In terms of state funding for the arts and humanities, we serve a meager banquet. As one participant pointed out, Montana is 56th among the states and territories for legislative appropriations to its state arts council. We get so busy guarding our own plates, that it's hard to focus on the feast.

But in spite of dwindling government support, amazing things happen here – collaborations of the kind that Mr. Fraser only imagines.

For example, Paris Gibson Square and Cascade County Historical Society in Great Falls recently forged an exhibit titled "Unfettered Spirit: Art and History on the Open Plain" – a rich mix of contemporary art and pioneer experience. In Choteau, community history and traditions were shaped into an original play, then shared with a professional theatre troupe in Appalachia. In Bozeman, the landscape-inspired compositions of guitarist Stuart Weber were fodder for a new dance by Montana Ballet Company.

In these parts, history and terrain inspire art. It's fertile ground for collaboration. From Charlie Russell to Russell Chatham, we've been busy for the past hundred years trying to make sense of this place.

Sure, our history is fascinating. But so are the rich and complex ways in which history and art coexist in Montana.

We're in trouble only when we try to sever one limb from the other, to make art and heritage stand on opposite sides of the room. Or claim that one is "peripheral" to the other.

So let's invite those culturally-attuned tourists to our feast. Let them drink art and dine on heritage. One without the other is just table scraps – for tourists and more importantly, for Montanans.

– Kristi Niemeyer  
for *State of the Arts*

## Boost to cultural tourism

A 1997 report by the Travel Industry Association of America (TIAA) provides a boost to the current focus on cultural tourism.

The "Profile of Travelers who Participate in Historic and Cultural Activities" found that this group of travelers spends more on average than all U.S. travelers (\$615 per trip compared to \$425). Cultural tourists also tend to take longer trips, include multiple destinations, participate in more activities, and stay more often in hotels, motels and bed-and-breakfast inns. The report was based on the 1996

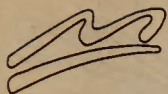
TravelScope survey of 240,000 households, coordinated by the U.S. Travel Data Center.

Partners in Tourism is working to expand research on several fronts. A subcommittee has formed to develop cultural tourism-related questions to be asked in future national travel surveys conducted by the TIAA.

The organization is also assisting the Tourism Works for America Council in developing questions for that group's annual survey that will help assess the social and cultural impacts of tourism. For more information, contact Partners in Tourism at 202-885-8932.







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### NEA invites visitors to Web site

Web surfers with an interest in the arts are invited to drop by the National Endowment for the Arts' Web site at <http://arts.endow.gov>

The site features the monthly online arts magazine, [arts.community](http://arts.community); a guide to the NEA, an Arts Resource Center and links to other art-related sites.

*USA Today* rated the NEA address as a Hot Site for April and September, while the search engine Yahoo's "Internet Lifel" listed it as "Memorable Site of the Month" for November of 1996.

While surfing, don't forget to visit "Open Studio" at <http://www.openstudio.org>

## ACCOLADES

# Arts educator receives national teaching award

Susan E. Colley accepted the Pacific Region Secondary Division Art Educator of the Year Award from the National Art Education Association in Chicago on April 3.

This award is made to one outstanding secondary art teacher in each of the four geographical regions of the United States. Colley also received the Montana Art Educator of the Year Award at the Montana Art Education Association Fall Conference, held last October in Billings. Both awards recognize outstanding service, achievements and contributions to art education.

Colley has served as MAEA Membership chair since 1993. She was also the association's treasurer (1982-85) and on the MAEA Interscholastics Committee (1981 and 1989). She has given nine presentations at the fall MAEA conferences since 1988 and 12 presentations at NAEA conferences around the nation since 1986. Topics have included: "Multicultural Art Programs," "Publicity Images," "Assignments for K-12 Preservice Art Teachers," "Art Games," "Invisible Stories in the Art Room," "Creative Hats and Vests," among others.

Colley also served two times on the national Crayola Dream-Makers Grant Committee for the Northwest Region of the country.

In addition to devoting considerable energy to professional organizations, she teaches an



**Bridger teacher Susan Colley was named Arts Educator of the Year.**

innovative visual art program in the Bridger School System where she has been employed since 1975. This K-12 art program has a central studio focus and incorporates select aspects of history, aesthetics and criticism.

Curriculum topics often address difficult social and political issues, motivating students to realize the connections between art and daily life. Her current art curriculum has served as a foundation for the Carbon County Consortium of Art Curriculum Committee which serves 19 independent school districts in Carbon County.

Colley shares her teaching expertise with the elementary education majors and the K-12 art majors/minors at MSU-Billings. Her contributions were recognized in 1996, when she received an Award of Excellence from the MSU-Billings College of Education and Human Services.

Other teaching venues have included the Fromberg Summer High School Migrant Program, the Carbon County Art Guild Summer Art Program, various Carbon County adult education classes, and quilting classes in the Billings area.

"Creative Quiltings" is her home business with marketing outlets in Montana and northern Wyoming. She is, in fact, a walking advertisement for these one-of-a-kind art-wear fabric pieces, meticulously designed and constructed.

According to the MAEA Awards Nomination Committee's letter, nominating Colley for the 1997 Montana Art Educator of the Year Award, "Susan has been a role model for her peers in art education in this part of Montana and throughout the state. From art classroom instruction, state and national conference presentations, community endeavors, to exploring her personal art studio interest, Susan Colley has made numerous contributions to improving the thoughts and practices of her colleagues and others."

## Deadlines loom for NEA grants to organizations

Deadlines are on the horizon for three categories of National Endowment for the Arts' grants to organizations.

Categories and deadlines are:

**Planning & Stabilization:** May 4, 1998  
(For projects starting no earlier than April 1, 1999)

**Heritage & Preservation:** Aug. 3, 1998  
(For projects starting no earlier than April 1, 1999)

**Education & Access:** Sept. 14, 1998  
(For projects starting no earlier than April 1, 1999)

Planning and Stabilization grants are designed to enable organizations to assess their

strengths, weaknesses, and financial health, and to develop strategies for improvement. Funding also helps organizations implement projects or achieve financial goals that will strengthen their institutional capacity.

Heritage and Preservation grants help assist, preserve, document, and present those artists and forms of artistic expression that reflect our nation's diverse cultural traditions.

Education and Access grants are designed to support lifelong learning in the arts via pre-K-12 curriculum-based projects and other types of educational endeavors for learners of all ages. These grants help organizations provide a broad public with access to excellence in the arts, often focusing on those whose opportunities to participate may have been limited by geographic, ethnic, or economic constraints.

In order to apply, an organization must:

- Be nonprofit, tax-exempt.
- Have a four-year history of programming, except for applicants for folk and traditional arts projects.
- Have professional staff who can devote the required time and effort to the project.

Grants generally range from \$5,000 to \$200,000 and must be matched at least dollar-for-dollar with non-Federal funds.

To order a hard copy of the Grants to Organizations guidelines booklet, contact the National Endowment for the Arts, Nancy Hanks Center, 1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20506-0001; call 202-682-5400; or e-mail [webmgr@mail.endow.gov](mailto:webmgr@mail.endow.gov). Please include your name and mailing address.

## The way music works

A growing body of medical research has shown that music may be useful in healing:

- At California State University in Fresno, studies by psychologist Janet Lapp have shown that migraine patients who listen regularly to their favorite music have one-sixth as many headaches as before.

- When music was played for them daily, premature babies at UCLA in Los Angeles and Georgia Baptist Medical Center in Atlanta gained weight faster and used oxygen more efficiently; and babies at Tallahassee Memorial Regional Medical Center had shorter stays in the Intensive Care Unit, compared with babies in control groups without music.

- Half an hour of music produces the same effect as ten milligrams of Valium, said Dr. Raymond Bahr, head of the Coronary Care Unit at Baltimore's St. Agnes Hospital.

- Studies have shown that the use of music can lower blood pressure, basal metabolism and respiration rates. And it increases production of endorphins, which reduce pain, and salivary immunoglobulin, which speeds healing, reduces infection and controls heart rate.

- Music aids digestion and reduces stress. It is also becoming a part of therapy in drug and alcohol detoxification, and is used as an aid for those with learning disabilities and Alzheimer's patients.

-Great Falls Tribune



### Summerfest Strategy Session

Park County Fair Board Manager Donna Bickford Goldner meets with Livingston sculptor Sam Terakedis and wildlife artist Jack VanHoesen in preparation for Summerfest. The two artists and the fair board are organizing an Arts and Crafts Weekend, June 26-28, followed by a national level Wildlife and Western Art Exhibit, July 1-5. The two events will feature a sampling from Montana's finest artisans, music, fine art and workshops by several nationally known and regional artists. For more information, call Goldner at 406-222-4185 or VanHoesen at 406-686-4850.



## PART 2: THEATRE AS BUSINESS

## A well-written play is only the beginning

In the March/April issue of this newsletter, Dana Singer began her exploration of the business of playwriting. She discussed a few of the basic tenets of her craft: first, it's a competitive field, and writers must present themselves and their work in a professional manner.

Second, writing for the theater requires a financial commitment, including the purchase of a quality computer and printer, a good resource library, and assorted office expenses.

With this issue, her discussion continues...

In addition, for your growth as a playwright, it's essential that you read other writers' plays and that you go to the theater as much as possible, whether that be locally, regionally, or nationally. Again, the extent to which you can afford to do these things is a

personal decision, but all playwrights must make some level of basic commitment.

It is very useful for playwrights to attend new play festivals or labs and/or theatre conferences. There is a long list of opportunities and each playwright should evaluate them individually, but try to attend one each year if possible. At new play festivals and labs, you will improve your writing skills by hearing many plays being read and listening to the feedback from the appointed respondents as well as from the audiences. At conferences, you will learn what is happening in the industry by meeting and talking to other theater professionals, including the invited speakers and panelists, by attending the information sessions, and through osmosis at the cocktail parties and other informal gatherings.

Do not underestimate the power of personal connections in an industry largely dependent on word of mouth. Yes, this will require you to pay for travel, food, accommodations, appropriate clothes, registration fees, and to use vacation time, but I wager that anyone who has attended any of the festivals, labs, and conferences heartily recommends investigating cost-effective ways to attend.

Third, choosing the path of a playwright requires a long-term commitment. There are no guarantees of success, and you may experience periods of intense frustration over how time-consuming and difficult it is to get produced or published. A well-written play is obviously the important first step to establishing yourself professionally. From there, it requires hard work and perseverance to get your work produced or published; don't wait to be discovered. In trying to chart a course of steps to take, be realistic. Don't shy away from smaller-level contests or productions. No one starts at the top. Think of each stage

as a building block on which you will add another, equally important layer.

As do many writers, you may struggle with combining all that is required of you: creating a well-written play, performing the necessary research to know how best to market your work, setting up and following through with an organized system of submissions, continually broadening your circle of contacts, participating in readings and

productions if your hard work pays off, and creating the next well-written play with what we hope are your leftover creative brain cells when you get home from your time-consuming day job. And you're probably doing all of this in addition to trying to maintain a normal life: partner, friends, other personal interests. I don't say this blithely: it's not easy.

Fourth, try to have confidence in your work. You have something to say and it's important to you that others have the

opportunity to hear your work. When you win a playwriting contest, or are accepted to a new play festival or lab, or receive an offer of a reading or a production (regardless of whether it's the black box, second stage, mainstage, whatever), it's because the person on the other side sees value in what you have written. These are not gifts. The contests, festivals, labs, or theatres are looking to enhance their own reputations in the marketplace by having presented your work. This enables them to expand their standing in the

community where they are based (the part of the picture known as the audience), to increase their fund-raising efforts locally, regionally, and nationally, and to become more well

established in the theater community. Both the writer and the producer gain tangible benefits from the production, even though sometimes you may feel that you are being "given" a reading or production.

Last, be someone who is actively involved in the theater community and a person with whom other people want to work. Seek out other playwrights and learn from each other. If you have the time, volunteer at a local theatre, perhaps becoming a reader in the literary department to learn firsthand what it's like to be the recipient of submissions (an invaluable experience), or maybe become the coordinator of a new reading series.

Try to understand both sides of your relationships with others — you do have certain rights, obligations and responsibilities, and it is important that you understand these within the context of normal industry customs and practices. This doesn't mean you always have to say "yes" to every

request or be nice to your detriment, but strive to act within generally accepted guidelines of behavior. For example, if you participate in a post-performance discussion of your play, listen carefully to what the audience is saying and respond graciously, not defensively. Your reputation is of utmost importance and often it's not what you say but how you handle the situations that will be remembered.

Writing for the theater is a unique and remarkable field. My goal is to encourage budding playwrights to continue to write plays and learn how to flourish as artists. Embracing the business side of your career will enhance your ability to remain committed to your craft. Daunting as it may seem, it will serve you better to walk into it with your eyes and arms wide open.

This article is from the second edition of *The Student's Guide to Playwriting Opportunities*, edited by Michael Wright and published by Theatre Directories, Dorset, VT.

Dana Singer is the author of the acclaimed *Stage Writers Handbook: A Complete Business Guide for*

Your reputation is of utmost importance and often it's not what you say but how you handle the situations that will be remembered.

*Playwrights, Composers, Lyricists and Librettists*, published by Theatre Communications Group (Terrence McNally says "Dana Singer has hit the bull's-eye ... I cannot imagine anyone writing for the theatre being without it."), and former Executive Director of the Dramatists Guild.

Now based in Missoula, Montana, Dana gives seminars around the country addressing the wide range of business considerations inherent in writing for the theater. She is also the Chair of the Russian Copyright Project, under the aegis of the American Theater Exchange Initiative, charged with developing systems of copyright education and protection in Russia. Dana serves on the Administrative Committee of the Missoula Writers Colony, and on the national advisory boards of the Edward Albee Theatre Conference, Austin Script Works, and North Carolina Playwrights.

For more information, write to Singer at 2275 Amigo Drive, Missoula, MT 59802; call (406) 728-5248 or fax (406) 728-2729; or send e-mail to [Stagewrite@aol.com](mailto:Stagewrite@aol.com).

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## Shakespeare in the Parks launches new season

Montana Shakespeare in the Parks launches its new season with "Toast of the Town," a gala fundraiser set for 6 p.m. June 25 on the campus of Montana State University-Bozeman.

The festive evening will include music, appetizers and desserts, spiced with a preview of "A Midsummer Night's Dream." Chatham's Livingston Bar and Grille is donating edible fare, while a cash bar supplies wine (also from Chatham's establishment), beer from Spanish Peaks, and martinis from The Mint in Belgrade.

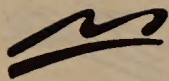
Tickets, limited to 250, sell for \$35 each. An additional \$100 buys a Russell Chatham lithograph. Call (406) 994-5885 for reservations.

The 1998 season includes on old favorite and one play that is new to the company's repertoire. "A Midsummer Night's Dream" was last produced in 1986 and is considered by many to be their favorite Shakespearean comedy.

The second SIP production, "The Winter's Tale," portrays the opposition between age and youth, cruelty and goodness, jealousy and faith.

For more information, contact Carter Walker with Shakespeare in the Parks at (406) 994-5885.





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## Basin

June 7

Jazz Brunch - 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Community Hall, Montana Artists Refuge, 225-3500

## Belgrade

May 2

Big Sky Handbell Concert - 7:30 p.m., Belgrade High School

## Big Timber

May 25

Crazy Mountain Museum Festival - 11 a.m., Crazy Mountain Museum, 932-4451

## Bigfork

May 1-2-3

"Cat on a Hot Tin Roof" - Bigfork Center for Performing Arts, Bigfork Community Players, 837-1530

May 8-9

Avant Garde Dance - Bigfork Center for Performing Arts, Northwest Ballet, 755-0760

May 9-10

"Graceland" - Bigfork Art and Cultural Center, Down Home Productions, 837-0244

May 22, 23, 29, 30, June 5, 6, 16, 19, 24, 27

"Don't Dress for Dinner" - 8 p.m., Bigfork Summer Playhouse, 837-4886

June 13, 17, 22, 25, 30

"The Will Rogers Follies" - 8 p.m., Bigfork Summer Playhouse, 837-4886

June 15, 18, 20, 23, 26

"Grease" - 8 p.m., Bigfork Summer Playhouse, 837-4886

June 29

"Cabaret" - 8 p.m., Bigfork Summer Playhouse, 837-4886

## Billings

May 1

"Romeo & Juliet" - 8 p.m., Alberta Bair Theater, 256-6052

May 1-3

"Three Viewings" - Billings Studio Theatre, 248-1141

May 5

The Ahn Trio - 8 p.m., Alberta Bair Theater, 256-6052

May 8-10

"The Early Life of Louis Braille" - Billings Studio Theatre, 248-1141

May 9

Big Sky Barbershop Harmony Chorus & The Chordial Celebration - 8 p.m., Lincoln Center Auditorium, 656-0766

May 12

Reading: M.L. Liebler - 7:30 p.m., YMCA Youth Center, The Writer's Voice, 248-1685

May 29-31, June 3-7, 10-13

"La Cage Aux Folles" - Billings Studio Theatre, 248-1141

June 3

Alison Krauss and Union Station - 7:30 p.m., Alberta Bair Theater, 256-6052

June 6

Yellowstone Art Museum Art Auction - 6 p.m., Billings Sheraton, 256-6804

June 12

The Bobs - 8 p.m., Alberta Bair, 256-6052

June 14

Festival of Cultures - 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Rocky Mountain College

## Bozeman

April 30, May 1

"Betsy's Birthday Bash" - 7 p.m., Emerson Cultural Center, Vigilante Theatre Co., 586-3897

May 1

Montana Aids Network Fundraiser: Pianist Steve Schalchlin - 7:30 p.m., MSU Ballroom B, 586-0789

May 2

"Rewinding the Vigilantes II" - 8 p.m., Emerson Cultural Center, Vigilante Theatre Co., 586-3897

May 4

Reading/Signing: *Leaning Into the Wind* - 7 p.m., Country Bookshelf, 587-0166

May 8-9, 15-16

"Landing with a Thud" - 8 p.m., Emerson Cultural Center, Equinox Theatre Co., 587-0737

May 13-14, 17

"La Traviata" - Willson Auditorium, Intermountain Opera, 587-2889

May 16

Rory Block - 8 p.m., Emerson Cultural Center, Boss Blues Promotions, 222-6977

May 16-24

Yellowstone National Park 125th Anniversary Symposium - MSU & Yellowstone National Park, 994-5145

# Arts Calendar



**The Ahn Trio**  
in  
Billings  
and  
Missoula

May 22

Bruce Hornsby and the Range - 8 p.m., Valley Ice Garden, Vootie Productions, 586-1922

May 23

Greg Brown - Vootie Productions, 586-1922

May 28

Celebration of Children & the Arts - 5-8 p.m., Hawthorne School, 585-1590

June 6

Emerson Cultural Center Gala - Emerson Cultural Center, 587-9797

June 12

Gallery Walk - 5-8 p.m., downtown

June 19-21

"Oklahoma" - Willson Auditorium, Montana Theatre Works, 585-5885

June 25

Toast of the Town (Benefit) and "A Midsummer Night's Dream" - 6 p.m., MSU Campus, Shakespeare in the Parks, 994-5885

June 27, 28

"A Midsummer Night's Dream" - MSU Campus, Shakespeare in the Parks, 994-5885

## Butte

May 3

Butte Symphony: "Americana" - 2:30 p.m., Mother Lode Theatre, 723-3602

May 7

Glenn Miller Orchestra - 8 p.m., Mother Lode Theatre

May 9

Gallery Walk - 6:30-8:30 p.m., Uptown Butte

May 22

One Fine Evening - 7 p.m., War Bonnet Inn, Montana Tech Booster Club 494-4105

May 28-30

Butte Jazz Festival - 10 a.m.-8 p.m., Montana Tech

May 29

Butte Jazz Festival: New Orleans Cabaret Show & Monte Carlo Night - War Bonnet Inn, 494-7800

June 4

Gallery Walk - 6:30-8:30 p.m., Uptown Butte

June 6

Alison Krauss and Union Station - 8 p.m., Mother Lode Theatre, Vootie Productions, 586-1922

June 12-14

Showstoppers! - Mother Lode Theatre, 723-3602

June 27

"Oklahoma" - 2 & 7 p.m., Mother Lode Theatre, Montana Theatre Works, 723-3602

## Cascade

June 13-14

"Betsy's Birthday Bash" - 7 p.m., Dearborn Country Inn, Vigilante Theatre Co., 586-3897

## Eureka

June 13

West Kootenai Auction - 9:30 a.m., north of Eureka, follow signs

## Fort Benton

June 26-28

Summer Celebration - various locations, 622-3351

## Glasgow

May 9

"Swingtime Canteen" - High School, Montana Rep

## Glendive

May 8

"Swingtime Canteen" - High School, Montana Rep

## Great Falls

April 30, May 1-3

Springtime in the Rockies Jazz Festival - 8 p.m., various venues, 449-7969

May 2

Springtime in the Rockies Jazz Festival - all day, various venues, 449-7969

May 4

Statler Brothers - 7:30 p.m., Four Seasons Arena, 727-1481

May 9

"Evening in New Orleans" - 7 p.m., Meadow Lark Country Club

May 10

Cascade Quartet: "A Salute to Mothers" - 4 p.m., First Con. Church, 453-4102

May 12

Cascade Quartet: "A Salute to Mothers" - 7:30 p.m., CM Russell Museum, 453-4102

May 16

Electric City Harmony: "Outskirts of Heaven" - 8 p.m., UGF Theatre

May 17

Great Falls Symphonic Choir: "An Evening of Gershwin Remembered" - 7 p.m., Civic Center, 453-4102

May 21

Discussion/Book Signing: Jerome Greene, *Frontier Soldier* - noon, Paris Gibson Square, Cascade County Historical Society



# ar, May – June

Deadline for the  
July/August  
Arts Calendar  
is June 1, 1998



Montana Rep's "Swingtime Canteen" performs in Great Falls, Lewistown, Glendive, Glasgow and Miles City

May 29-30-31, June 5-7, 12-14

"Plaza Suite" - Center Stage Theater, 727-5297

June 5

Alison Krauss and Union Station - 8 p.m., Civic Center, Vootie Productions, 586-1922

June 6

Luminaria Walk - 7-11 p.m., River's Edge Trail, 761-4966

June 18

Reception: "Handcrafted: An Expression of American Tradition" - 5-7 p.m., Cascade County Historical Museum

June 19-21, 25-28

"Something's Afoot" - UGF Theatre, 791-5289

## Hamilton

May 19

Reading/Signing: Swain Wolfe - 7:30 p.m., Chapter One Book Store, 363-5220

June 6-7

Big Sky Fiber Arts Festival - all day, Fairgrounds, Big Sky Fiber Arts Guild, 642-6424

## Havre

May 30

Heritage Center Grand Opening - all day, Heritage Center, Clack Museum Foundation, 265-2535

## Helena

May 1-2-3, 7-8-9, 14-15-16-17

"Grease" - Grandstreet Theatre, 442-4270

May 6

May Author's Series: Stan Cohen - noon, Montana Historical Society, 444-2694

May 8-10, 15-16

"Salmon Blessings" - Myrna Loy Center, Toadstone Theatre Co.

May 9

Mother's Day Pots & Plants Sale - 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Archie Bray Foundation

Helena Symphony: "Pops and Hops - Montana and The West" - 8 p.m., Civic Center, 442-1860

May 12

Artbeats' 4 Star Chefs Tour - 9 a.m.-3 p.m., various venues, 443-1916

May 13

May Author's Series: Stephen Ambrose - noon, Montana Historical Soc., 444-2694

May 16

Richard Marshall - 7 p.m., St. John's building library

May 20

May Author's Series: Jerome Allen Greene - noon,

Montana Historical Soc., 444-2694

May 30

Indie Binge - noon-10 p.m., Memorial Park Bandshell, 457-8222

June 6

Wakina Sky Learning Circle Fundraiser - 6-9:30 p.m., Myrna Loy Center, 447-4035

June 13

Slide Lecture: Beth Lo - 7:30 p.m., Holter Museum

June 23-28

Montana Traditional Jazz Festival - various venues, 449-7969

June 26-28

Art Mart - Last Chance Gulch Mall, The Art Center, 443-2242

## Kalispell

May 1

Reggie Garrett - 7:30 p.m., Sons of Norway Hall, Wooden Music, 837-5795

June 5

Harvey Reid - 7:30 p.m., Sons of Norway Hall, Wooden Music, 837-5795

## Lewistown

May 2

Peter Mayer - 8:30 p.m., Blackbird Java

May 3

"Swingtime Canteen" - 3 p.m., Fergus Co. High School, Montana Rep, 538-2321

## Lincoln

May 24

Helena Symphony - 2:30 p.m., School Gym, 442-1860

## Livingston

May 1-3

"The Music Man" - Firehouse 5 Playhouse

May 2

Paul Geremia - 8:30 p.m., Depot Center, Boss Blues, 222-6977

June 26-28

SUMMERfest Arts & Crafts Weekend - Fairgrounds, Park County Fair Board, 222-4185

## Miles City

May 2

Miles City Speakers Bureau: Rosewood Guitar Consort - 7-9 p.m., Custer County Art Center

May 10

"Swingtime Canteen" - Custer County H.S., Montana Rep

## Missoula

May 1-3

"The Unsinkable Molly Brown" - Wilma Theatre, MCT, 728-1911

May 7

The Ahn Trio - 7:30 p.m., UM Music Recital Hall, 243-4999

Billy McLaughlin - 7:30 p.m., Bistro on Main, Missoula Folklore Society, 273-3178

May 9

Signing: Lois Flansburg Haaglund - 1-2 p.m., Barnes & Noble

May 9-10

Missoula Symphony Orchestra & Chorale - Wilma Theatre, 721-3194

May 11

Swaine Wolf Publication Party - 7 p.m., Fact & Fiction

May 22

Greg Brown - 7:30 p.m., University Theatre, 273-3178

June 7

Alison Krauss and Union Station - 8 p.m., University Theatre, 243-4051

June 23-28

Artrain - Northern Pacific Depot, 721-9620

## Pablo

May 1-3

Wildlife Film Festival - SKC Michel Building, Mission Valley YMCA, 676-4968

## Ronan

May 5

Peter Mayer - 7:30 p.m., Cappuccino Cowboy

## Seeley Lake

May 23-24

Loon & Fish Festival - 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Community Hall, 754-2761

## Sidney

May 9

"Who Shot The Sheriff?" - 7 p.m., Triangle Night Club, Vigilante Theatre Co., 586-3897

## St. Ignatius

May 3

Glacier Orchestra: "Music in the Mission" - 4 p.m., St. Ignatius Mission, 257-3241

## Stevensville

May 22-23, 29-30, 5-6

"Camelot" - 8 p.m., Chantilly Theatre, 777-2722

## Trego

May 19

Rory Block - 7:30 p.m., Civic Center

## Troy

June 11-14

Artrain - 721-9620

## Virginia City

May 23

Sanders-Vanderbeck Center Grand Opening - 7 p.m., Sanders-Vanderbeck Center, 843-5473

May 29 throughout summer

"Brewery Follies" - Gilbert Brewery, 800-829-2969 (closed Tuesdays)

June 20

Opening: "Steve, 'Three Crosses' Kinney: a Buckskinner's Native American Art" - 6 p.m., Sanders-Vanderbeck Center, 843-5473

June 26

Reading: "Tumblewords" - 7:30 p.m., Sanders-Vanderbeck Center, 843-5473

## West Yellowstone

June 20

"Betsy's Birthday Bash" - 7 p.m., Holiday Inn, Vigilante Theatre Co., 586-3897

## Whitefish

May 8-10, 15-17

"Ah, Wilderness!" - Whitefish Auditorium, Whitefish Theatre Co., 862-5371

May 19

Wine Tasting, Food Fest & Auction - 6-9 p.m., Grouse Mountain Lodge, 863-1781

May 20

Greg Brown - 7:30 p.m., Central School, Wooden Music, 837-5795





# Arts Calendar, May – June

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## Portland festival focuses on native arts

Northwest Native artists will come together with Native artists from elsewhere in the United States and Canada for Indian Art Northwest, a four-day celebration of arts and culture taking place in Portland, Ore., May 21-25.

The centerpiece of the festival is a marketplace which showcases the work of 200 master artists. Held on Saturday and Sunday of Memorial Day weekend, the event is expected to draw over 50,000 visitors to the region, including art collectors and museum and gallery buyers.

In addition to the marketplace, the festival includes performances, music, film, food and exhibits.

For more information, contact Indian Art Northwest at (503) 230-7005 or visit the festival's website at [www.columbian.com/Indianartnw](http://www.columbian.com/Indianartnw). Montana artists can receive travel assistance funds. Call Alexandra Swaney or Arni Fishbaugh at 444-6430 in advance to make arrangements for this support.

## Anaconda

**Copper Village Museum and Arts Center:** Bill Ohrmann Exhibit, May 1-June 30

## Bigfork

**Bigfork Art and Cultural Center:** Bigfork Elementary School Art Exhibit, May 1-10; Flathead Valley High School Art Students and Teachers Exhibition, May 11-June 1; Art League Spring Exhibition, June 6-July 5

## Billings

**Western Heritage Center:** "Views of Billings: Davis and Whiting," through May 31;

"Explore the Yellowstone!" through June 13; Montana Association of Weavers and Spinners Juried Exhibition, June 3-30

## Yellowstone Art Museum:

"30th Art Auction Exhibition," May 5-June 5, Art Auction, June 6; "Brad Rude: Original Nature," June 12-July 19; "Will James, Paintings and Drawings," ongoing

## Bozeman

### Beall Park Art Center:

Karen Rice, drawings of the Hanford Nuclear Site, and The Paintings of Jim Barrett, through May 30;

Works by Archie Bray Foundation Residents, June 5-July 18

**Emerson Cultural Center:** Howard Friedland, Impressionist oil and pastels, through May 30; Laura Grace Barrett, mixed media, through June 1; Donna Loos, oil paintings, June 9-July 20

**Gallery Museum of the Rockies:** "Caroline McGill: An Extraordinary Woman," May 16 through summer; "T. rex on Trial: Examining the Evidence for Meat-eating Dinosaurs," through May of 1999

**MSU Exit Gallery:** Juried Student Exhibit, through May 8

**MSU Helen Copeland Gallery:** Annual Graduation Exhibition, through May 8; "The Park: Contemporary Artistic Visions of Yellowstone National Park," May 17-August 7, opening reception 5-7 p.m. May 17

## Butte

**Arts Chateau:** "Montana Interpretations 1998," through May 26; "Robert Bracketti - Recent Paintings and Sculptures," and "Suzanne M.M. Warner, Various Works," June 2-July 17, reception June 12, 7-9 p.m.

## Chester

### Liberty Village Arts Center and Gallery:

"Bridles, Bits and Beads," May 1-June 1, open house with Alexandra Swaney, 2 p.m. May 3; Bruce Selyem Photographs, June 3-July 31

## Colstrip

### Schoolhouse History and Art Center:

"Montana's Black Gold: Underground Coal Mining Communities 1880 to 1950," through May 29

## Great Falls

**C.M. Russell Museum:** "For the Birds," through May 8; "This Contest Is For Real

Hands: An Old Time Montana Rodeo," photos by Otho Hartley, through June 20; "C.M. Russell Museum Permanent Collection," through July 5; "The Grand Expedition of Lewis and Clark As Seen by CMR," through Sept. 1; "Western Traditions" shop exhibition and sale, May 18-Nov. 2; "Mountain Majesty: The Art of John Fery," June 11-Sept. 7

## Cascade County Historical Society Museum:

"Handcrafted: An Expression of American Tradition," May 8-July 2, reception 5-7 p.m. June 18, Auction 6 p.m. July 2

## Gallery 16: Marilyn Hughes, watercolors,

through May 9; Jack Fisher, multi-media, May 11-June 13; Darlene Sanford, paintings, and Valerie Veis, baskets, June 15-July 31

## Paris Gibson Square Museum of Art:

Great Falls Public Schools All-City Art Exhibit, through May 6; "Translucence," featuring Dale Chihuly, Vranna Sue Hinck and Gregory Grenon, May 8-July 1, opening reception 5:30-7:30 p.m. May 8

## Hardin

**Jailhouse Gallery:** "The Beginning: Yellowtail Dam 1960-1965," May 1-June 10; "Bridles, Bits and Beads: The Enduring Folk Arts of Montana," June 11-July 30

## Helena

### Archie Bray Warehouse

**Gallery:** Resident Artist Summer Exhibition, June 18-August 15, opening reception 7-9 p.m. June 18

### Holter Museum of Art:

"Youth Electrum," through May 24; "Gennie DeWeese Retrospective," May 29-July 12; "Gennie DeWeese: New Works," May 29-June 21; "Josh and Tina DeWeese: Ceramics and Mixed Media Sculpture," May 29-July 12; Photography by Barbara Van Cleve and Louise Serpa," May 29-July 12; "Rosalie Wynkoop: Maiolica Ceramics," June 22-July 17

**Montana Historical Society:** "Rush to Glory: Montanans at War, 1898," ongoing, opening 7-9 p.m. May 7; "Off the Top," through Dec., 1998

**Myrna Loy Center:** Indian Art Exhibition, May 24-June 26

## Kalispell

**Hockaday Center for the Arts:** Peter Moore, acrylic paintings, through May 20; "Julius Seyler: Paintings of the Blackfeet and Glacier Park," through June 8; "Writings of Frank Bird Linderman and Paintings of Charlie Russell," through June 8; "Hugh Hockaday Retrospective," June 13-Sept. 12, opening 5-9 p.m. June 13; "Flathead Fashion: A Look to the Past," June 13-July 12, opening 5-9 p.m., June 13

## Lewistown

**Lewistown Art Center:** Montana Watercolor

Society Annual Open Membership Exhibit, through May 30; Theola Sederholm Exhibit, June 2-27

## Livingston

**Danforth Gallery:** Nan Darham, oil pastels and Genise Park, paintings, opens June 1

**Livingston Depot Center:** "The Hospitable Spirit: A Montana Dude Ranching Experience," opening reception 5-9 p.m. May 29; "Rails Across the Rockies," permanent exhibition

## Martinsdale

**Bair Family Museum:** family home shown by guided tour, open Wednesday-Sunday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., May 1-Sept. 30

## Miles City

**Custer County Arts Center:** Western Art Roundup: 40 Sundance Paintings by Gary Schildt, and Bronze Sculptures by Harvey Rattey and Pam Harr, May 2-July 5

## Missoula

**Art Museum:** "Jay Rummel - A Montana Original," through May 31; "Yard Art Exhibition," June 5-Aug. 14, opening 5-8 p.m., June 5

**UM Gallery of Visual Arts:** Kendra Bayer MFA Thesis Exhibit, through May 2

**UM Paxson Gallery:** "To Dance! A Dancer's Vision," May 1-19

## Polson

**Sandpiper Gallery:** Barbara Mellblom, watercolor, Jim Schell, acrylic, Genki Takabayshi,



"Under water theatre of flotsam and jetsam" is part of display by Laura Grace Barrett at the Emerson Cultural Center in Bozeman through June 1.



The Resident Artist Summer Exhibition at The Archie Bray Warehouse Gallery in Helena is open from June 18 through August 15. (J.M. Cooper photo)

ceramics and sumi paintings, through May 6; High School Award Show, May 8-21; Lauretta Bonfiglio, watercolor and Jim Blow, photography, May 22-June 24, reception 5-7 p.m. May 22; Betty Hudson, oil and pastel, and Fred Mielke, turned wood, June 26-July 29, reception 5-7 p.m. June 26

## Red Lodge

**Depot Gallery:** "The Painted Ladies," month of May; "Elliott Eaton Watercolors," month of June

## Twin Bridges

**The Weaver's Studio:** "The Paintings of M.C. Kanouse," opening 7-9 p.m., May 23

## Virginia City

**Sanders-Vanderbeck Center:** "Steve, 'Three Crosses' Kinney: A Bucksinner's Native American Art," June 20-July 4, reception 6 p.m., June 20



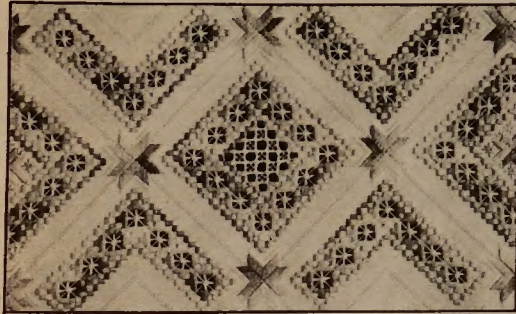
## BRIDLES, BITS &amp; BEADS

## MAC folk art exhibit hits the road

It's on the road! The final touring version of MAC's "Bridles, Bits and Beads: the Folk and Traditional Arts of Montana," will have its official opening May 1, at the Liberty Village Arts Center and Gallery in Chester!

Co-sponsored by the Montana Art Gallery Directors Association, the exhibit is a wonderful, colorful cross section of Montana's folk arts, with work by 36 artists from a variety of regions, occupations and ethnic backgrounds. It is based on a survey conducted by several field workers through MAC's Folklife Program over the past several years, and includes work from recipients of MAC's Folk and Traditional Arts Apprenticeship Grants, funded by the National Endowment for the Arts and designed to encourage the handing down of traditional art forms in Montana.

You'll see cowboy and Indian saddles, bead work, quilts, Norwegian embroidery, paintings and wood carving – work that comes out of the lives our people have lived here. See it in these communities over the next two years, thanks to generous touring support from the Lila Wallace-Reader's Digest Fund for Folk Culture. There will be an opening celebration and gallery talk by Alexandra Swaney at 2 p.m. Sunday, May 3.



Norwegian embroidery (above) and saddle-making (below) are among the folk arts featured in the touring exhibition, "Bridles, Bits and Beads".

### Bridles, Bits and Beads Touring Schedule

**1998**  
Ravalli County Museum, Hamilton  
Mar. 1- April 23  
Liberty Village Arts Center &  
Gallery, Chester  
May 1-June 1  
Jailhouse Gallery, Hardin  
June 15-Aug. 1  
People's Center, Pablo  
Aug. 15-Oct. 1



Arts Chateau, Butte  
Oct. 15-Dec. 15  
**1999**

Copper Village Museum & Arts  
Center, Anaconda, Jan. 15- Mar. 1  
Art Museum of Missoula  
Mar. 8-May 8  
Livingston Depot Center  
May 22-July 22  
Mon-Dak Heritage Center, Sidney  
Aug. 15-Oct. 1  
Custer County Art Center, Miles City  
Nov. 1-Jan. 1  
**2000**  
Western Heritage Center, Billings  
Jan. 15- Feb. 25

## MAGDA seeks exhibition proposals

The Montana Art Gallery Directors Association (MAGDA) is currently soliciting exhibition proposals for 1999 and 2000. The MAGDA Board of Trustees will meet in July to review and select exhibition proposals to present to the MAGDA membership for possible bookings during its annual conference/booking session in September.

All exhibits must be sponsored by an arts organization. The sponsor organization is responsible for preparing the exhibit for tour, including professional crating, press packets, condition reporting book, shipping to first venue, labels, interpretive text, etc. All contracts and communication with MAGDA will be made directly with the sponsor. Should an exhibit be booked through MAGDA with a non-MAGDA member, a \$50 marketing fee will be assessed.

The following information must be included in the proposal:

1. Processing fee of \$10 per proposal.
2. Name, address, and phone number of lender.
3. Title and description of proposed exhibit.
4. Number of pieces in proposed exhibit.
5. Space requirements (running wall or square feet).
6. Available dates (at least four consecutive months available for three exhibitions and travel time for each exhibit). MAGDA is booking shows for 1999 and 2000.
7. Rental fee you desire for each four-week period.
8. Insurance value and designation of insurance responsibility.
9. Exact number and exact weights of crates. MAGDA requires the lender to pay shipping to

the first venue. The lender is also responsible for crating charges. Crates must be professionally made, safe to travel, and reasonably sized.

10. A high quality 35mm slide of each piece in the proposed exhibit. Slides must be clearly numbered and labeled and specific to the pieces that will travel. No substitutions or deletions in the exhibit will be permitted.

11. A correlated slide checklist with pertinent information (artist, title, date, media, size).

12. Special restrictions or requirements.

13. Publicity available (catalog, press release, b/w photos, brochure, poster, etc.)

14. SASE for return of slides.

Proposals missing any of these materials may not be reviewed. The deadline for submitting proposals is June 15, 1998. For more information, call (406) 761-1797 or write MAGDA, 2112 First Ave. N., Great Falls, MT 59401.

### Raffle raises funds for Artists Refuge

The Montana Artists Refuge in Basin, which offers studio space for resident artists, has come up with a unique way to raise money for its scholarship fund.

The refuge is sponsoring a raffle for a Montana adventure that melds art and recreation. The winner will receive roundtrip airline tickets for two on Delta to anywhere in the continental U.S. (some restrictions apply); and visits to the studios of nationally known artists Anne Appleby and Gennie DeWeese.

Other amenities include overnight stays at Sanders Bed and Breakfast in Helena and Boulder Hot Springs in Boulder and a day-long float trip on the Big Hole River with Great Divide Outfitters.

The 400 raffle tickets sell for \$25 each. The winner's name will be drawn during the annual Jazz Brunch, 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m. June 7 at the Basin Community Hall. For tickets (or brunch reservations) call 406-225-3500.

## Workshops, exhibits honor MIA Golden Jubilee

A long tradition of bringing Montana artists together to share ideas, techniques and creative visions continues in July with the Montana Institute of the Arts' Golden Jubilee.

Scheduled for July 10-12 at the Emerson Cultural Center in Bozeman, the gathering will bring together artists from diverse fields to discuss everything from artistic techniques to marketing. Among the artists and their offerings: Chris Autio, photography; Laurie Gano, tapestry; Pete Fromm, prose; Carl Sheehan, pottery; Howard Friedland, painting; Jim Dolan, steel sculpture; and many others.

A non-juried "Hand Delivered Art Show" begins at 11 a.m. Friday in the Emerson. In addition to artwork, books, poetry and other literary

## The Montana Institute of the Arts



endeavors are also welcome.

The theme of the gathering, "Crossing Boundaries," refers to the idea of artists from diverse creative disciplines "cross

pollinating" to the benefit of their respective arts and the Montana arts scene as a whole – a process that the MIA has celebrated throughout its 50-year history.

In addition to the diversity of workshops, lectures and other presentations, a couple of special dinners are on tap. The evening of July 10, the Vigilante Players will present "Betsy's Birthday Bash," accompanied by a Chicken Kiev dinner. The Golden Jubilee Banquet takes place the following night, featuring live music served up with Coho salmon and Sicilian chicken.

For further details on workshops and presentations, including the featured workshop - Louise DeMore's outdoor workshop in *plein air* oil painting July 7-9 - call 1-800-238-9980 evenings (or (406) 284-3181 for the DeMore workshop).





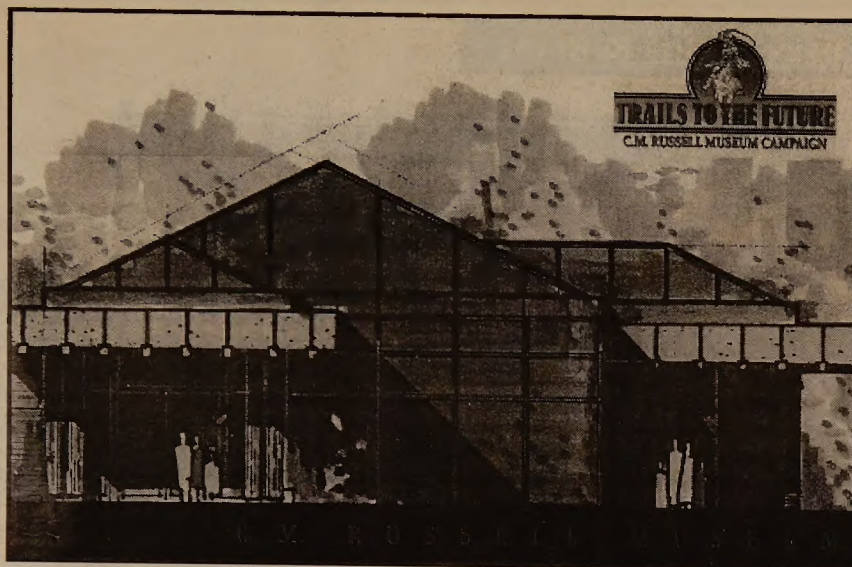
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### Charles Bair Museum reopens for season

The Charles M. Bair Family Museum in Martinsdale reopens May 1 for its third season.

The ranch home of the Bair family — Charles and Mary and their daughters, Alberta and Marguerite — is a repository of antiques, paintings and Indian artifacts that reflect the lives of this intriguing Montana family.

The home is shown by guided tours, in which docents relate stories of the family and the collections. The museum is open from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesday-Sunday, with the last tour beginning at 4 p.m. each day. The visitor's center, which was originally the barn, also houses several exhibits and a gift shop.



## Russell Museum plans expansion

The C.M. Russell Museum recently launched a major expansion project, aimed at adding 26,000 square feet to the Great Falls museum. "Trails to the Future," a \$5-million capital campaign, has raised over \$2.77 million to date, and a public solicitation campaign will kick off in early fall.

The museum, which opened to the public in 1953 as a small gallery devoted to the works of C.M. Russell, has garnered a national reputation for its collection of Russell artwork and artifacts, including his original home and log-cabin studio. The current facility is 46,000 square feet and houses a permanent collection of more than 11,000 objects and works of art.

The addition would provide event and program space, new galleries, a larger gift

shop, a glass-topped atrium and coffee area and an outdoor sculpture garden. In addition, the Frederic G. Renner Library and Research Center will be expanded and made available to scholars, students and art enthusiasts.

According to museum executive director Lorne Render, the expansion "will allow C.M. Russell Museum to present a more complete picture of Russell's life and art, as well as many aspects of the West."

Construction will begin in the fall of 1999, with the opening of the expansion slated for early 2001. Plans call for the museum to remain open during construction.

For more information on the "Trails to the Future" campaign, call (406) 727-8787.

## UO appoints Hassrick to new C.M. Russell chair

An expert in western art has been chosen as the first holder of the Charles M. Russell Chair in Western Art at the University of Oklahoma, officials announced Monday.

Peter H. Hassrick ran the Georgia O'Keeffe Museum in Santa Fe, N.M., where as founding director he was responsible for designing and implementing the new \$7-million museum's start-up facility and program.

Before that, Hassrick served as director of the Buffalo Bill Museum in Cody, Wyo., where he is credited with developing the facility into a major national museum. He also served as a panelist for the Montana Arts Council.

Russell, who lived from 1864 to 1926, was a renowned western artist who produced more than 4,000 works of art. The chair was endowed with \$500,000 from the estate of Russell's widow. But its establishment at Oklahoma caused sore feelings in Montana, where Russell lived and worked.

A one-man selection committee chose Oklahoma over eight other applicants, including the Montana Historical Society in Helena and the C.M. Russell Museum in Great Falls.

## Top artists listed from Great Falls art shows

Art reigned in Great Falls during March, with five shows and auctions dedicated to western art, crafts and memorabilia.

Kalispell artist Joe Abbrescia was the recipient of the juror's Best of Show award at the C.M. Russell Auction of Original Western Art, held March 20-21. The award went to his oil painting, "Rhythm of the Drums," inspired by a Blackfeet Indian powwow attended last summer in Browning. Other awards include: Ashton and Louise Smith Artist Choice, Vilem Zach; First Place Exhibit Room, J. Harken and Lisa Ray; Second Place Exhibit Room, Steve Oiestad and Janie Camp; Third Place Exhibit Room, Larry Zabel; Best Painting (People's Choice), Larry Zabel; Best Sculpture (People's Choice), Daniel Parker; Sriver Bronze, R.F. (Bob) Morgan and W. Steve Seltzer; Tuffy Berg (Best New Artist) Award, Jason Rich.

Winners of the Western Heritage Art Show, held March 19-22, include: Best of Show, Gabe Gable; People's Choice, Cliff Rossberg; and Artists' Choice, Karen Boylin, who also

took first place in oil painting. Other first-place awards went to Reisenaur Dailey, transparent watercolor; Beverly Teitjen, opaque watercolor; Minnie Hawthorne, photography; Albert Joranson, drawing; Celene Greene, sculpture; and Richard Flager, carving.

Winners of the Great Falls Native American Art Show, March 19-22, were: Best of Show, Nathan Bread; Juror's Choice, King Kuka, Bruce Contway, Karen Coffey, Darrell Norman and Denelle Parsons; Honorable Mention, Leonda Fast Buffalo Horse, Nathan Bread, Jackie Bread, Les Peone, Howard Pepion, Alden Archambault, Chandler Good Strike, Lyle Oneasoo, Roger White Owl and Francis Wall; Special Buffalo Show Winners, Rocky Barstad, King Kuka and Jesse Henderson; Student Art Awards, Nick Crawford, Jodi Debois, Montana Tribes (student project), Katie Boggs, Paris Bread, Khol Kuka, Tyler Hoyt, Cala Jo Redmark and Donald Comes At Night.



Joe Abbrescia's "Rhythm of the Drums" took "Best of Show" at the C.M. Russell auction.

## Paris Gibson Square plans festive benefit

The Big Sky Mudflaps spice up an "Evening in New Orleans" with their dance-inducing tunes. The benefit for Paris Gibson Square Museum of Art begins at 7 p.m. May 9 at Meadow Lark Country Club in Great Falls.

The fundraiser also features a buffet of Louisiana-style cuisine and a wine-tasting. Jean jackets, adorned by artists from around the region, will be auctioned at 8:30 p.m., and dancing begins at 9 p.m.

Tickets are \$45; call 406-727-8255 for reservations.

## Artists' retreat opens in Virginia City

An historic 1860s-era home in Virginia City will open in late May as an artists' retreat and site for a variety of symposia, workshops and performances in the arts.

The Sanders-Vanderbeck Center was originally built in the historic mining town as the family home of Wilbur Fisk Sanders. Now owned and hosted by Patricia Vanderbeck and directed by Jack Waller, the center will offer in-depth hospitality in a quiet and inspiring setting for small groups of artists. It will also serve as a performing site for writers, musicians, visual artists and other creative folk.

A grand opening is scheduled for 7 p.m. May 23, featuring the Cascade String Quartet of the Great Falls Symphony. The following month will feature poetry and writing workshops on June 26-27 and a fine and folk arts exhibition June 20-July 4.

In August, a symposium titled "The Philosophical Flyfisher" links fly fishing, literature and philosophy. Presenters include Russell Chatham, Lani Waller, Greg Keeler, David James Duncan and Robert Lee.

For further details on the center, call Waller or Vanderbeck at 843-5473.



## YOUR SECRET WEAPON

# The artist's statement as a marketing tool

by Ivan Barnett  
Arts Advisor

As any craftsman or avid collector will attest, there is something truly special about buying a piece of art that was carefully crafted by human hands. But being invited into the artist's psyche, learning more about the work and its crafter can make the experience even more remarkable.

An artist's statement can be your best marketing tool, yet it is the aspect of craft marketing that is most often overlooked.

A well executed statement is far more useful than the conventional résumé that we have come to know and revere. In today's competitive marketplace your artist's statement cannot only contribute to increased sales of your work, but also to increased validation and visibility in the world of crafts.

### Historical perspective

Artist's statements are relatively new to contemporary craft and art. Just 20 years ago most craftspeople did not have a formal printed statement. The craftsman's work tended to speak for itself.

In the 1980s, however, when the crafts field started to become driven by the "business end" of things, and in turn become a marketplace, we saw artists' personal statements surface more frequently. As the retailer or gallery owner became more sophisticated and aware of the value of added information, and how it affected the public's purchasing choices, the statement began to have a direct link to the selling process.

Today we might relate the concept of an artist's statement to that of the "point of purchase" (POP) strategy so common in retail marketing. Advertising professionals figured out long ago that the POP can be responsible for as much as 30 percent of the consumer's decision-making process when contemplating a purchase. So, it's not surprising that consumers are continually bombarded with information on almost every product or service.

### What should my statement include?

The "who, what, when, why and how" concept is a good place to start. If you do not have an artist's statement, sit in a quiet place and write or tape record the essence of why you love doing what you do.

Remember, you are basically giving away a piece of your life when you sell your craft. People want some intimate details about that life. Passionately conveyed information brings the buyer closer to you and your work. Very often, the creative process itself is of great interest to the consumer.

In many ways, the purpose of your artist's statement is to educate the public and your selling venue by providing important insights into the why and how of what you do. Your goal is to spotlight yourself in a way that sets you apart from other producers not only of similar product, but of all crafts. The fact of the matter is that there are more products than demand for goods in crafts today. This puts more pressure on you to give something extra.

### What if I'm just starting out?

Even if you are just starting your business, you still have much to bring to your artist's statement. Focus on your connection to your materials, why you're creating, and remem-

ber to be enthusiastic. Today, the "excitement" of something can be as effective as traditional matter-of-fact credentials. (Madison Avenue utilizes this approach daily in telling us why we should buy or use a product.)

First, write an encompassing statement - possibly two or three pages long. Then you can break this down for different uses. If you have different product groupings, focus a separate statement on each group. Some of your background information can be the same throughout, but try to show different creative influences for each product area.

Show distinctions in the different items you produce. If you are well established in one area (e.g. jewelry), and you also now make something quite different (e.g. furniture), interweave your jewelry references but only in a way to showcase the other product.

Apply this also to different selling venues. In the 1980s, when I was showing and exhibiting in both the gift and craft markets, I used different statements, each with its own character. Try to establish a list of key words that express the who, what, where, etc. of your work and then determine what characteristics are different in the different markets to which you sell. (Sometimes a close friend or family member can be quite helpful by actually interviewing you as though they knew nothing about you.) You are expected to be commercially savvy in the mainstream markets, but at the craft fair, you are expected to be more of the creative, "right brain" type (the double standard) while still knowing about your business.

### I'm not a writer, so how can I write a statement?

The best policy is to write as though you were speaking about what you do. Writing about your work must come from inside. It shouldn't be slick or sound too contrived. This is one instance where simplicity of thought and execution can be very powerful. A good illustration of this simple concept is the recent movie "Slingblade". That movie was a refreshing departure from the standard Hollywood fare. No glitz, no action, just human emotion, raw and powerful. Take the same approach with your artist's statement. Don't gloss over the emotions that have driven your work. Don't try too hard to explain where your work comes from. Just tell your story ... plain and simple.

There is nothing wrong with getting help to fine-tune your statement. Sometimes paying someone to write the statement for you is the way to go; however, I would encourage you to at least try to write something in your own words - authenticity counts.

### Final thought

We have come to expect a "story" of sorts about everything that is for sale these days. The next time you turn on your television or radio, or pick up a magazine or drive down a highway, you will see or hear thousands of "stories". Your artist's statement is part of this phenomenon, and "your story" as a craft artist can be one of the most effective selling tools you have.

The great part about this is that you know more about your product and your life than anyone. As creative people, we often take for granted our lifestyles and our ability to make things with our hands.

Your challenge will be to relay your "story" in a way that is honest, inviting and individual. Remember, when someone buys your work, they are taking with them a part of you. You

artist's statement will be a direct link to the relationship you have with that person and their enthusiasm for what you are selling for years to come.

### Some valuable secrets to enhance your statement

- Use historic quotes that you relate to as a craftsman to validate you or your work. Check art history books, etc.
- If you have a need to elevate your statement with superlatives, ask your best customers or a retailer if you can quote them.
- Solicit interviews from the press in order to obtain quotes or passages from another source.
- Mention well-known artists who have influenced you and your work. Be honest. Show influences that connect your work to that of the well-known artists or craftsman.

### Where and how can I utilize my statement?

- Post it at craft events for the public to read. (You might want to have copies to give away to interested buyers.)
- Press releases can be developed from parts of your artist's statement.
- It is a good resource for your galleries or retailers to post or display alongside your work. (A very short version can be made into a handout.)
- Always include it in your portfolio, especially the longer version, for acquiring new representation.
- Pull information from the statement when writing or designing flyers, Web pages, etc.
- A good statement is a wonderful tool to hand an employee who is preparing to help you make your products.
- It is great for your own reality check when your true motives are being challenged by commerce.

### Some do's and don'ts of creating an artist's statement

- Above all, be honest.
- Always write in the first person (I) unless you are using quotes from someone else.
- Do not make excuses for who or what you are about.
- Be passionate about what you have to say.
- Be personal and intimate when you can.
- Update the statement regularly, especially if there have been substantial changes in your work or your life. (A good rule of thumb is to update it every couple of years.)
- Have someone who knows you read your statement. Does it really sound like you?
- Do not make the statement so difficult to comprehend that you lose the reader's interest. (Highly intellectual statements can confuse even the well-read.)
- Do not review your own work in your statement, especially by comparing yourself to famous, accomplished artists. That's for someone else to do. I cannot stress this enough! This is probably the most common mistake artists make and it is truly the mark of an amateur.

Ivan Barnett is a full-time arts advisor, writer and studio artist based in Santa Fe, N.M. His career spans 25 years and encompasses furniture design, book illustration, painting and the metal arts. He is a consultant for WESTAF's Circuit Writers, and can be reached at (505) 471-1014.

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### Museums are busy in Billings

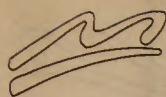
Members of the Museums Association of Montana will hold their annual meeting at the Northern Hotel in Billings April 30-May 2.

This year's theme is "Bringing Memories to Life". Thursday's agenda includes workshops on "Compelling Messages: An Interpretation" and "Doing Oral Histories". On Friday, Shari Nault-Pullar discusses "The Museum's Role in Cultural Tourism"; and on Saturday, Joyce Hunsaker presents a living history performance titled "Fanny".

Additional sessions will address cultural tourism, educational trunks and resource kits, gift-shop management, admission fees, care of historic photos and more.

For more information, call (406) 888-7936.





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### Dance/USA director to resign

Dance/USA executive director and president Bonnie Brooks recently announced her resignation, effective no later than June 30, 1998.

Brooks has been at the helm of the national organization for seven years. "It's someone else's turn to have the privilege and adventure of leading this wonderful organization," she said.

Dance/USA was founded in 1982 to advance the art form. During Brooks' tenure, the organization launched a national task force on Dance Audiences and Dance Education, expanded its data collection, research and information services, revised its publications program and established two reganting programs.

A search committee is currently recruiting a new executive director.

## FUNDRAISING WITH FINESSE

# Moving your readers past page one

by Deborah Block and Paul Karpis

How do you usually end the first page of your direct mail fundraising letters? If you've never given it much thought, then consider the consequences.

The bottom of the first page is one of those critical stopping points where you're apt to lose readers. *Permanently.*

After all, it's your job to motivate donors or prospects to stay with you through the letter, take them to the reply form, and get them to respond to your appeal. Then why make it easier for readers to put your letter down prematurely?

Many professional writers employ a variety of inventive techniques to propel readers to turn that crucial first page.

But before we review some of the most popular tricks of the trade, here's one important caveat: including some form of the popular "(Over Please)" at the bottom can certainly help prompt readers. However this is not, by itself, a viable substitute.

So in your mailings, consider combining that element with some of these ideas:

### 1. Finish in the middle of a sentence.

It sounds easy. You begin the sentence on page one and end it at the top of page two. But remember, you'll need to make sure the sentence is sufficiently interesting and informative to hold your readers' attention.

### 2. Use an ellipsis.

The ellipsis is one of the copywriter's most cherished techniques. You can join two thoughts together with an ellipsis, and end page one at the "...". The last line of page one might say something like, "I want you to know just how much you mean to..." The top of page two can

continue, "...thousands of homeless children like Tommy." The underlying idea of this strategy is that it builds drama from page one to page two.

### 3. Tease the reader with benefits.

Finish off page one with a tease of what readers receive when they make a gift. End with a tantalizing offer like, "Here's a sample of all that's in store for you when you join today."

### 4. Ask a question.

It's a natural instinct to want to know the answer to a question. Try posing a query that demands a response. For instance, you could end page one by asking, "How can you and I make a difference?" or "Ready for a shocker?" Readers will only find out - when and if they turn the page.

### 5. Use motivating transitions.

Snappy catch phrases can serve to move readers along, especially combined with an ellipsis or colon. Consider the following transitions. "And that's not all..." "I hope you'll agree that..." "You'll be glad to know that..." "One thing's for sure..." "So don't forget..." "Best of all..." You get the idea.

### 6. Keep them wondering.

You can tell an engrossing story that concludes on the following page. If you're able to create a tale that makes donors truly concerned and involved in the plight of little Susie, endangered tigers, or an historic building - they'll want to turn the page to learn what happens.

Deborah Block and Paul Karpis are partners in the freelance direct mail copywriting firm BK Kreative in Mountain View, Calif. This article is reprinted with permission from *Successful Direct Mail & Telephone Fundraising*, May 1997. For more information, call (415) 962-9562.

## Tips on recruiting a fundraising committee

One of the most daunting aspects of operating a nonprofit organization is the endless job of fund-raising. In this excerpt from "Organizing Special Events and Conferences: The Practical Guide for Busy Volunteers and Staff," author Darcy Campion Devney offers the following tips on recruiting a fund-raising committee:

### Balance your committee.

Community-wide events usually draft business people (because of their resources) and representatives (members of the intended audience). Friends are your first natural resource for committee members, but don't stack the deck. Try to balance personalities, too. Although commitment is important, a whole room full of over-enthusiastic types can become wearing.

### Be specific about the demands of the job.

Give each prospective member of the administrative committee a job description and schedule when you interview them. Discuss any time constraints: will committee members be able to attend the monthly meetings? Are they relatively free during the crucial periods?

### Assess skills, and then fit the person to the task.

For example, the most organized and capable person is inadequate as a financial manager unless she or he knows what a petty cash voucher is, so select a financial manager who has a solid working knowledge of accounting and budget operations. On the other hand don't waste talented cooks as ticket salespeople, unless they want to try something new and different. Some skills are transferable (for example, artistic sense is an advantage on decorating crews or publicity crews).

### Delegate, delegate.

Never turn down offers of help. Mobilize spouses, children and other organizations for your public event. Every job you delegate means one you won't need to do yourself, and one more person who has a small stake in the

success of the event - Me Baltimore City Fair, for example, keeps some 2,000 volunteers busy. Give volunteers a chance to enjoy the event as well as sample the drudgery. People are more willing to help if they know that they will only be involved in one or two aspects of the work.

### Make your planning meetings count.

Start your meetings on time! Send informative agendas in advance, and you'll find many problems solved and questions answered before the meeting. Check on any over-enlistment of crew members, prime enthusiasm, revise scheduling as needed, and redistribute the workload if it becomes too much for any one individual.

### Foster a team attitude.

Provide light refreshments during planning meetings, and always leave time after business for socializing. Memorize every volunteer's name. Communicate plans to your administrative committee, and urge them to distribute information and printed materials to their crews. Many managers seem to expect helpers to "read minds." Each worker must understand why each task is necessary, how it should be done, and when it fits into the schedule.

### Encourage and reward volunteers.

Many fund-raising experts advocate forms of rivalry (posting lists, awarding prizes) to encourage volunteers. There's nothing wrong with quotas tied to deadlines - that's good planning, so you can redistribute ad pages or tickets in time to sell effectively. But your methods should not extend to public humiliation, such as marking out the "laziest" volunteer salesperson with a button or token. Advancement to more responsible positions is often used as a reward for dedicated workers.

### Train replacements.

To develop skilled managers, many groups endorse some kind of manager-in-training program. At Hawaii's Punahou School, the annual carnival is a project of the

junior class. Parents of juniors assume booth and division chairs; parents of sophomores serve as co-chairs in training for next year. Other groups assign experienced managers as "advisors" or "mentors" to all new managers. Even if there is no formal deputy program in your organization, ask a manager-in-training to work with you.

### Standard Committees

**Administrative Committee:** Coordinates everything, evaluates event, writes final report.

**Theme and Decorations:** Develops theme, decorates site.

**Financial Business:** Receives and deposits checks, pays bills, solicits sponsors and exhibitors, keeps books.

**Facilities/Security/Parking:** Selects and reserves site, diagrams facilities, contacts government officials, obtains permits.

**Publicity/Media Relations:** Writes press releases and newsletter announcements, creates posters and handbills, designs display windows and advertisements, handles media relations.

**Reservations/Hosts/Reception:** Takes reservations, greets guests.

**Kitchen/Refreshments:** Plans menu, shops, cooks.

**Serving:** Assigns servers, borrows and returns inventory supplies, serves food.

**Programming/Directing:** Selects and schedules programming, rehearses performers, presides over ceremonies, designs and produces printed programs.

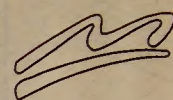
**Setup/Cleanup:** Assigns exhibit space, hires custodial staff, moves furniture, cleans and closes site.

**Specials:** Costume designer, prompter, and props keeper for plays; a veterinarian for animal shows; spotters and runners for auctions; etc.

Reprinted from Darcy Campion Devney's "Organizing Special Events and Conferences: The Practical Guide for Busy Volunteers and Staff," The Practical Press, Cambridge, Mass.



# Arts on the web



## Selling your art through the Internet

by Beverly Blessing,  
Editor, Iowa Arts News

On Oct. 14, I led an Iowa Arts Council sponsored workshop on Marketing for Artists in Amana, Iowa. There were many topics presented and discussed having to do with what marketing is, how you do it, and how it differs from "selling" your art.

Most participating artists were those who had been artists for some time on a part-time basis, but who wished to leave other full-time careers and to make their living through their art.

I could not stress enough then or now the importance of having developed a full marketing plan as a guide to the operation of your business and the selling of your art (which keeps you in business). Those who enter the marketplace on a haphazard basis do not stay long. The better you have prepared your business plan, the better you know your customer, the longer you will likely stay in business. The exercise of planning helps you determine who your potential customers are, what they want, and where they are likely to be.

Assuming you have already made your marketing plan and that your customers can be found perusing the Internet, there are several ways in which the Internet can be a valuable selling tool for you.

### Using Existing Internet Services

There are numerous resources on the Internet for artists for many purposes — some helpful to the operation of your business, some simply as sources for information, some for the direct selling of your art.

General resources include:

#### World Wide Arts Resources

<http://www.wwar.com/default.html>

#### Art Source

<http://www.ukyedu/Artsource>

#### Fine Art Forum

<http://www.msstate.edu/FineArt-Online/art-resources>

#### Internet Art Resources

<http://www.ftgi.com/default.htm>

#### ArtsWire: Online Communications for the Arts

<http://www.artswire.com>

#### Iowa State University

<http://www.iastate.edu/scholar>

#### The Art of Business Web Site Promotion

<http://deadlock.com/promote/oddstuff/promotion.cgi>

<http://www.emergingart.com>  
<http://www.wwwebit.com/magical-mistaccess.htm>

Spending time on the Internet just searching with key words turns up an amazing amount of information. Sorting through the information to determine what is worthwhile to you is the time-consuming part. However, I used the key words "art+marketing" to discover the above. Similar combinations would turn up different resources — such as using "selling+art," "business+artists," "artists+galleries."

There are galleries on the Internet who will show your art, and represent you and the sale of your work. The alternative to that is selling your art through your own Web page. There are distinct advantages and disadvantages to each.

### Creating Your Own Web Page

If you are a technowizard or have a close family member who is, you can be as creative as you want with the development of your own Web page. There are several good design software packages, or you can contact firms who will design one for you. You will be able to show your work in four color, talk about each piece as much as you think the reader will

tolerate reading, and make sales direct through the Internet with no middle man and no gallery commission (usually amounting to 40 percent of the retail price).

You will be responsible for maintaining and upgrading your Web site, as well as paying your monthly fee (usually up to \$50) plus as much technical assistance as you may require.

You must also determine how best to get the search engines to recognize your site and to get it near the top of the list when others search for art. This is not a small consideration — it is very frustrating. There are not a lot of ways to achieve quick visibility and the overcrowding of the field as more use the Internet will only make it worse.

When you subscribe to an on-line gallery's services, you are buying their technical expertise, their effort at maintaining the gallery's visibility and their time and effort to process your sale. This could be worth your time and money — especially if you are frustrated by technology.

### Hedge Your Bets

The Internet is in its infancy now in terms of users knowing how to make it sell. The pornography and used-car businesses seem to have figured out what makes things sell on the Internet. But I think the selling of art via the Internet may take some time to achieve its full potential, so don't rely solely on sales through this means.

Being represented by several solid galleries, using regional and local art shows, and repeated communication with those who have purchased your art in the past for referrals and additional purchases will still be your most productive means of selling your art.

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Beverly Blessing.*

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### OnLine Arts Festival lists shows, sources

Professional artists and craftspeople who exhibit at festivals now have a major online source of information, thanks to the Juried OnLine Arts Festival (JOLAF).

This festival database has posted the names and contact addresses for more than 500 well established shows in all parts of the country, sorted by month and state. In addition, JOLAF has listed the names and addresses of all major wholesale shows and promoters, and provides detailed information about numerous Renaissance Faires. The database can be found at <http://www.jolaf.com/resources/showinfo/>

JOLAF's library of "Artist's Resources" also features dozens of sources of supplies; a thorough listing of schools for advanced art and craft instruction; a listing by state or region of all major arts agencies; contact information for guilds, societies and associations; extensive publications listings; and more.

This helpful information is free to professional artists and craftspeople with online access. Bookmark it at <http://www.jolaf.com/resources/>

## Art spotter: Internet tips for art surfers

We have all heard (through the media or friends) about all of the great resources and information that are available on the Internet, but are you still having problems locating all of this great stuff? The web sites listed below were chosen as good starting points for focused "surfing" within a specific artistic discipline.

### All Disciplines

**Arts Wire** - Online Communication for the Arts: This great arts resource site dedicated to promoting computer-based communications was launched in 1992 to foster electronic communication between artists, arts organizations and communities across the country. The "open to the public" portion of the site features news, Web-based tours and a public database of other art sites and home pages. Subscribers also have access to online forums providing current art news and information, discussion of arts-related issues and listings of grants and jobs in the arts. Arts Wire can be found at: <http://www.artswire.org/>

**Arts Wire Money Tour:** A tour within the Arts Wire site, the Money Tour is a great place to learn about funding resources. <http://www.artswire.org/ArtsWire/money.html>

**The Art Deadlines List:** A great source for arts related funding, the Art Deadlines List features competitions, contests, call for entries/papers, grants,

scholarships, fellowships, jobs, internships, etc., in the arts or related areas. Check this massive resource at: <http://cunstwww.xensei.com/adl/>

### The United States Copyright Office:

Learn about copyright, your rights, and how to protect your work at: <http://lcweb.loc.gov/copyright/>

### ArtFBI (Artists for a Better Image):

ArtFBI is a non-profit artist advocacy organization whose purpose is to promote the process of being an artist. A great site that looks at the media's representation of artists, and our roles in society. Find out more at: <http://www.tmn.com/community/jgates/artfbi.html>

**ArtsEdge:** The National Arts and Education Information Network — Developed by the Kennedy Center and the National Endowment for the Arts, ArtsEdge networks artists, teachers and students interested in supporting the arts as a core subject area in the K-12 curriculum. <http://artsedge.kennedy-center.org/>

### Visual Arts

#### Fineart Forum: Resource Directory —

A good directory with over 1,000 art resources including Web sites, gophers, ftp sites and mailing lists. <http://www.msstate.edu/FineartOnline/art-resources/>

**World Wide Arts Resources:** One of the largest gateways to arts on the Internet, World Wide Arts Resources contains links to artists, galleries, museums, publications, schools and agencies. Links to literary, dance and theatre

resources can also be found at: <http://www.world-arts-resources.com/>

### Literary Arts

**LitLinks** - Literary Links on the Web: LitLinks lists many of the best literary links on the web. Extensive links to authors, general humanities, listservs and newsgroups, and e-text archives are just some of the resources you can find at: <http://www.ualberta.ca/~englishd/litlinks.html>

**LitWeb:** Find literary resources on the Internet at LitWeb. Find links to publishers and booksellers, writers' resources, collections, discussions and authors at: <http://www.vmedia.com/shannon/litweb.html>

### Screenwriters & Playwrights Home Page:

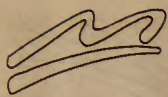
Established in 1994, The Screenwriters & Playwrights Home Page features resources and networking for screenwriters and playwrights and also general writing resources. <http://www.teleport.com/~cdeemer/scrwriter.html>

### The Academy of American Poets:

Founded in 1934 to support American poets at all stages of their careers and to foster the appreciation of contemporary poetry. Find out more about The Academy of American Poets and their resources at: <http://www.poets.org>

Carl Lew is a photographer, Internet consultant and Web developer from Olympia, WA. Please send e-mail to [cjlew@halcyon.com](mailto:cjlew@halcyon.com) with "Art Spotter" in the subject. Carl Lew can also be reached on the web at: <http://www.halcyon.com/cjlew/>





# L

## egal news & news of note

# Contract law:

## A guide for artists and organizations

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### Production Guide and Hotline offer film updates

For information on current and upcoming film productions, call the Montana Film Office Hotline at (406) 444-3960 day or night. The line features up-to-date details on film productions that the office has been authorized to release.

The Montana Production Guide, published by the film office, features advertising by production support companies and lodging facilities.

The guide is available at public libraries in Billings, Bozeman, Butte, Great Falls, Helena, Kalispell and Missoula and at chambers of commerce in many Montana communities. Copies may be purchased from the film office at \$25 each. The film office also offers a Production Crew List, Support Services/Production Companies List and copies of the 1995-96 Production Guide at no charge for the first copy. To order, call (406) 444-3762.

The film office also has its own Internet site, located at <http://montanafilm.mt.gov>. Soon, information from the production guide will also appear on the Web site.

### Contract Basics

What do you do if you are a musician who wants to define ownership of your band's name? If you are a painter who is commissioned to do a work, how do you make sure you will get paid for the work on delivery? If a theater company wants to lease a space, who is liable for injuries to patrons of the theater? These concerns can all be addressed with agreements or contracts.

Basically, a contract is an agreement between two or more people in which each person gives something of value to the other. This includes a promise to do something in exchange for money or goods, or a promise to do something in exchange for a promise to do something. In the example above, the theater can pay an extra fee to the landlord in order to be covered under the landlord's insurance, and the other band members can promise to give the ownership of the name to the guitarist in exchange for a promise to let the band practice at the guitarist's house.

A contract can be written or oral. Oral contracts are legally enforceable but it is usually better to write the terms down in case the parties later disagree about what the terms were. Some contracts must be written to be legally enforceable such as a lease for longer than one year or a sale of goods for more than \$500. Whether the contract is oral or written, it is important to be clear and definite about terms such as money, time of performance, date of the agreement, and what each party is expected to do under the contract.

### Agreement

To have a valid agreement, there must be an offer by one party which is accepted by the other party. The parties must agree to each term. If you do not want to agree to a term, you must express that to the other party since a silent disagreement will not eliminate the term. An acceptance of only some of the terms of an offer is really a counter-offer which then must be accepted by the first party for it to be binding. The agreement is not binding until both parties agree on all the material terms.

Therefore, the guitarist can offer the use of his house as practice space to the rest of the band in exchange for ownership of the band's name. The other band members can accept those terms or reject them and make a counter-offer by giving the guitarist the name in exchange for use of the space plus

\$50 paid to each of the other members. If the guitarist accepts, they have a contract. However, if the guitarist objects to giving \$50 to the back-up singer who only performs on some of the songs, he needs to speak up, or his disagreement will not count, and he will have to pay the singer \$50, too.

Therefore, the painter who is commissioned to paint a portrait could ask for a deposit before starting work, could ask for a fee for each sitting, and could ask for the balance before handing the work over to the purchaser. A sculptor sending work to a purchaser in another state might also request a deposit or the balance in full before sending the work to the purchaser.

### Changing the contract

If the parties mutually agree to end the contract, they can agree to rescind it. In addition, the parties can agree to modify terms of the contract.

Because of the Pre-Existing Duty Rule, new consideration should be exchanged if a new obligation is created under the contract. Therefore, if a theater company is hired to do one performance, but the person hiring the company wants them to do two performances, the purchaser of the service must give additional consideration, or money, for the extra promise to do a second performance. On the other hand, if the theater company agrees to do an outdoor performance for a flat fee of \$1,000, but wants to charge more when it reaches the site, it cannot enforce a promise to pay more money because it has a pre-existing duty under the original contract to perform for \$1,000. Therefore, to get more compensation, the company would need to add a new duty such as meeting with members of the audience in exchange for more money.

If you change the terms of a contract, again, it is important to get the new terms in writing.

### Enforceable contracts

To be an enforceable contract, the following requirements must be met:

- The parties must be competent. Children and mentally incompetent people may not contract.
- The purpose of the contract cannot be illegal. A gambling debt is not enforceable in most states.
- There must be a meeting of the minds. The parties must agree on each term.
- There must be an exchange of value/consideration.
- The contract may be required to be in writing:
  - For service that will be completed more than one year from the signing of the contract.
  - For a sale of goods for \$500 or more.
  - For real-estate agreements, including a lease for over a year.

*These guidelines were published by the Connecticut Commission on the Arts and Connecticut Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts.*

The most common breach of contract artists experience is a failure to be paid for work done and delivered

### Consideration

In addition to an offer and acceptance, a binding contract requires consideration. Consideration is something valuable like money, an object, or a promise to perform. Therefore, an exchange of a painting for money is an exchange of consideration. Similarly a promise to do a painting in exchange for a promise to pay money is an exchange of consideration.

### Protection by contract

If there is a breach of contract, which means one party does not perform his obligations under the contract, the other party may enforce the contract in court. Enforcement may include making the other party perform or pay damages.

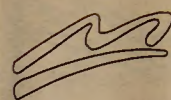
The most common breach artists experience is a failure to be paid for work done and delivered. The best way to protect yourself against not being paid for work is to never

Oral contracts are legally enforceable but it is usually better to write the terms down

give the work to the purchaser until you get the money. If you are unable to collect for work you have already created or delivered, sometimes the easiest remedy is to have an attorney write a letter explaining the artist's rights to the purchaser. It is especially difficult to collect money from out of state; so it is wise to insist on being paid for work before delivery.



# Legal news & news of note



## Answers to some arts-related questions

By Bill Frazier, Attorney  
and  
Montana Arts Council Chairman

One of the most enjoyable aspects of writing this column is hearing from so many readers about the problems they are encountering. Often, the difficulty can be solved with a phone call or letter. Others are more complex and have involved lawsuits and law enforcement agencies. There is nearly always a solution, if you do not wait too long and if you consult knowledgeable professionals. Try to solve the problem rather than sitting around getting indignant.

Following are some questions from readers and answers that I hope will help. Remember that every situation is different, so what might have worked for your cousin in Arizona might not work for you in Oregon. Select a lawyer and accountant and develop good working relationships with them. Attend seminars sponsored by arts organizations. Pay attention to agreements you reach and documents you sign. And remember that if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is.

### Several months ago you wrote about mediation. Where do I find a mediator who knows about legal issues relating to the arts?

Mediation often provides a quick and inexpensive solution. While it would be encouraging to find a mediator who has a working knowledge of art problems, it is preferable to find one who is fair, open-minded, and willing to listen to both sides. You can locate such a person through your local court system, local law firms, and through satisfied clients. Ask around. Mediation is becoming more and more popular and most lawyers and judges are suggesting, if not ordering, it.

### Is artwork purchased from a charitable organization tax deductible?

No, no more so than if you buy the painting from a gallery downtown. You

pay money and get value in return, so there is no donation. If you give \$100 to your church, that is a tax deductible donation. If your church sponsors an art show to raise money, and you buy a work of art, that purchase price is not a donation and is not deductible. The same applies whether it is an art gallery, university, hospital, or civic organization. However, it may be deductible as a business expense.

### Can a mural painted on the side of a building be painted over?

This is tricky and has caused some problems for people and businesses, as well as for some government agencies. Consult the Visual Artists Rights Act of 1990 in the U. S. Code. The law is designed to protect artists and their rights in their artworks, which generally are publicly displayed art such as statues and murals. When in doubt, do not destroy or tamper with such art.

A case currently is on appeal to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit (New York), which should be helpful if not determinative of this issue. The case involves the removal of a piece of sculpture from the lobby of an office building without the artist's permission and has been quite controversial. This is a developing area of art law, and there is nothing yet definitive, so watch out for it. Refer back to the March/April issue of *Art of the West* for more information on this issue.

### Is it true that the idea of warranty is being applied to art?

Yes. Last year, *Art of the West* published a two-part article, along with many examples, on the application of warranty to the sale of art. Artists and gallery owners should review those articles to see how they might apply to daily business practices. Simple examples of warranty in the sale of art would be statements in brochures, comments by auctioneers, statements by gallery salespeople, and sales contracts. Another issue that goes hand in hand with warranty is disclosure, which relates to such things as how many

prints are really in a limited edition, whether there has been any stretching of the edition, and whether state laws have been complied with.

### How much of another work can be copied before there is a copyright infringement?

There is no formula; it is either a copy or not. Everyone wants a specific percentage, but there isn't one. The legal terms are "substantial similarity" or "striking similarity," either of which constitutes copyright infringement. I continue to be amazed at the amount of copying I see at art shows. I also am amazed at the number of artists who do not get caught and the ones who are copied but simply do not care. Photographers are suing painters regularly now for copyright infringement, so if you are guilty, watch out; the penalties can be substantial.

### What is the difference between non-profit and tax-exempt?

A non-profit organization is organized under the laws of the individual states and can be very loosely interpreted to include almost any type of charitable or public interest function. It is not automatically tax-exempt, which is a status conferred by the IRS. To achieve this status with the IRS, the organization must comply with complex regulations and a great deal of accountability. A non-profit can simply be filed with the secretary of state's office in your state, while the tax-exempt may take months or years of work and accounting with the IRS. The tax-exempt status is much more stringent.

Keep calling and writing. We will try to answer your questions, often over the telephone, or we will send you a reliable source of information. It never hurts to ask and often saves much expense and grief.

**Bill Frazier is an attorney with Swandal, Douglass, Frazier and Gilbert in Livingston, Montana.**

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### Dance legends honored by Dance/USA

Dance legends Judith Jamison and Bruce Marks are recipients of Dance/USA's 1998 Honors. The biennial award was created to recognize outstanding lifetime contributions to dance.

Dance writer and choreographer Deborah Jowitt will receive an Ernie Award for her unique contributions to the field. The Ernie, named for the late Ernie (Ian) Horvath, was established to honor "unsung heroes".

Judith Jamison, a professional dancer, teacher and choreographer, is artistic director of the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater and the Alvin Ailey American Dance Center. Bruce Marks served 12 seasons as artistic director of Boston Ballet.

The awards will be presented at a celebratory luncheon June 6 in Charleston, S.C., during the Dance/USA National Roundtable. The three-day conference, held June 4-6, brings together artists and arts professionals from around the world to discuss pressing issues facing dance.

For more information, call 202-833-1717.

## HB 2821: IRA Charitable Rollovers

Legislation currently before the U.S. House of Representatives could have a significant effect on the amount of money retirees are willing to give to charities from Individual Retirement Accounts.

Under H.B. 2821, the Charitable IRA Rollover Proposal, people who choose to donate a portion of their IRAs to charities would receive favorable tax treatment on those donations. If those funds were rolled over as a life-income gift, where the donor received payments from the charitable gift, taxes would be assessed only on those subsequent payments.

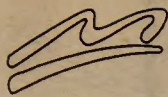
Current law makes withdrawals from IRAs, at any age, fully taxable as income.

The proposed law would benefit individuals by giving them much more favorable treatment for any IRA funds they donate to charity. The federal government would benefit when individuals choose to roll over IRA funds into life-income gifts by receiving funds sooner than current law allows.

And charities would benefit because the law encourages charitable contributions from IRAs, while current law provides no incentive for individuals to make such contributions.

Those who wish to register support for the proposed law may call the House Ways and Means Committee at 202-225-3625, or the Committee on Finance (which includes Montana Senator Max Baucus), 202-224-4515.





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### New project supports library cultural programs

Libraries from around the country will be eligible to receive technical assistance and funding to develop cultural

programming for their communities, thanks to a new program being offered by the American Library Association (ALA).

The "LIVE at the Library" initiative, which is supported by a four-year, \$1 million grant from the Lila Wallace-Reader's Digest Fund, will help libraries create and present public programs such as literary readings, book discussions, performances and touring exhibitions.

Under the project, library associations, state libraries and/or literary organizations in each of eight regions of the country will work with the ALA to offer one-day workshops on the how-tos of presenting cultural programming. The seminars will examine such topics as program planning, speaker selection, publicity, fundraising and partnerships.

The first two workshops will take place Oct. 8 in Nashville and Nov. 13 in Delaware. Sessions in remaining sites will be held in 1999 and the year 2000.

(Continued on next page)

### Visual Arts, Crafts & Photography: Call for Entries - State and Regional

The Arts Chateau Museum is inviting artists, crafters and vendors from all areas and disciplines to sell their wares at the **Second Annual Art and Music Festival**. Last year's festival raised \$1,209 to support continuing youth art educational opportunities such as the youth painting class, the youth bookmaking workshop, the annual youth art exhibition, the youth project room, and the youth mural project. It is our ambition to use funds from this year's festival to further our efforts in creating a Youth Museum and Educational Outreach Center in Butte, MT. The three-day Art and Music Festival will run from August 14-16, 1998 at the Anselmo Mine Yard on Excelsior and Caledonia streets. Cost of booth spaces for artists and crafters for all three days is \$30. Cost of booth spaces for commercial food vendors is \$50. Call the Arts Chateau Museum at 406-723-7600 to reserve your space.

The **Beall Park Art Center and Emerson Cultural Center** of the Emerson of Bozeman, MT invites artists and photographers from the Northwest to submit proposals for solo and joint exhibitions for the 1999-2000 schedule. Each artist is requested to submit a proposal statement, 10 slides of, or representative of, the proposed exhibit, numbered slide information sheet, bio/artist statement and return postage. A letter of requested information may be obtained from Beall Park Art Center, 406-586-3970, or picked up at the Emerson office. DEADLINE: SEPT. 30.

The **Kaleidoscope Summer Festival Arts and Crafts Fair**, presented by the Helena Art Center in conjunction with Carroll College, will be held August 14-15, 1998 in Helena Memorial Park. This craft fair is open to all artists and craft persons producing original arts and crafts. For a registration form, please write to the Helena Art Center, PO Box 304, Helena, MT 59624 or call 406-443-2242.

The **Myrna Loy Center for the Performing Arts** is seeking regional artists, sculptors, photographers, and craftspeople to exhibit creative work in their gallery space in Helena. Please send a personal resume along with slides and/or photos of recent work to: Tim Speyer, Myrna Loy Center, 15 N. Ewing, Helena, MT 59601.

The **1999 Race to the Sky T-shirt Competition** seeks artwork that would be printed on t-shirts, sweatshirts, coffee mugs, hats etc. Payment of \$250, plus the opportunity to buy Race merchandise at wholesale prices. The Race organization retains ownership of the original artwork. Any medium is acceptable. Four or less colors. Subject is sled dogs, mushers, mountains, sky, snow, teams of dogs, sleds, etc. Mat and/or frame the entry. The printed art will be approximately 8"x8". Do not use a copyrighted photograph or art work. Do not include words on your art; a graphic designer will add words on the printed version. No limit on entries. Mail to Cara Greger, 100 Quinn Creek Rd., Bozeman, MT 59715 or call 406-585-7817. DEADLINE: JUNE 15.

The **Wade Gallery in Livingston, MT** is currently organizing an exhibit of historical works

by Edward Sheriff Curtis, William Henry Jackson, John James Audubon, Thomas Moran, Karl Bodmer and others to take place this summer. The Gallery is interested in any original prints, paintings or photographs by these and other noted artists, including oils and acrylics by Russell Chatham. If you have something that you think may be appropriate, please call the gallery at 406-222-0404.

**Eastern Washington Watercolor Society 1998 National Juried Art Competition.** Open to aquamedia on paper, unvarnished. No collage. \$20 fee, two entries. \$2,000 in cash and purchase awards. For prospectus, send SASE to Eastern Washington Watercolor Society, PO Box 1701, Richland, WA 99352. Or check the web site at cbvcp.com/ewws. DEADLINE JUNE 15.

**Octoberfest 98.** All-media show. This is a multi-media exhibit held during international Mt. Angel Octoberfest with attendance of over 400,000. Salon-style installation. To submit, send resume, exhibition history, up to 15 labeled slides in holder, SASE to Mt. Angel Fine Art Gallery, PO Box 866, Mt. Angel, OR 97362; 503-845-4114. DEADLINE MAY 20.

**1998 Arts for the Parks.** Open to 2-D art only, no sculpture, photography or prints. No computer generated art. Media: oil, watercolor, scratchboard, gouache, acrylic, alkyd, tempera, mixed-media, pastel, pencil or pen and ink. Subject: landscape, wildlife, history represented within areas governed by the National Park Service. Flora, fauna and geography must be indigenous to the park depicted. The judges will be looking for a variety of locations, subjects and artistic interpretations of National Park sites. \$50 entry fee. In addition to the annual awards, there are also the 1998 purchase awards, (over \$60,000 in awards). Catalog to be published. For prospectus, send SASE to Arts for the Parks, PO Box 608, Jackson Hole, WY 83001; 800-553-2787; fax 307-739-1199; email artsfortheparks@blissnet.com; web site artsfortheparks.com. DEADLINE: JUNE 1.

**Art Studios West**, a new fine social stationery business bringing out its first line in June, is seeking original artwork. Submit 2-4 35mm slides suitable for 4x6 inch print reproduction and SASE. Pays royalties based on agreement with artist. For more information call or write Art Studios West, Attn: Deanie West, 260 Shoshone, B, Green River, WY 82935; 307-875-9434.

The **13th Annual Idaho Wildlife Art Show** will be held Oct. 23-25, 1998. The Art Show is open to all Wildlife artists. Entry fee is \$205 for art exhibition and sell. No commission on sales. Media for jurying include painting, sculpture, drawing, photography, mixed media, jewelry, ceramics, glass, metal and fiber. Please call 800-432-9453 for prospectus on show. DEADLINE: MAY 31.

The **Helena Art Center is presenting the 24th Annual Sidewalk Art Mart** on June 26, 27 and 28, 1998, on the Last Chance Gulch Walking Mall. The Arts and Craft Festival is held in conjunction with the annual Jazz Festival event. Entry is open to all artists and craft persons producing original arts and crafts. For a registration form, please write to the Helena Art Center, PO Box 304, Helena, MT 59624 or call 406-443-2242.

**Livingston Depot Center will present the 11th Annual Festival of the Arts**, to be held July 2-5, 1998 in conjunction with the Art Train from the Smithsonian. Open to all arts and crafts. Must send five 35mm slides of work to be exhibited and a completed application. For an application, call the Depot Center, 406-222-2300. DEADLINE MAY 15.

**Call for Artists: Slide Share Program at the Art Museum of Missoula.** In order to discover and expose the exciting range of visual art in our region, we offer local and regional artists an opportunity to present and discuss their work through slide presentations. These presentations are open to the community and seek to bring artists and the public together in an informal, educational atmosphere. The program mission is to address issues important to artists and promote critical dialogue. All local and regional visual artists as well as historians are encouraged to participate. All media is invited and any topic considered. The Program is held at the Art Museum on the second Tuesday of each month beginning at 7 p.m. Send abstracts and essays for critical theory and historically based presentations. Artists submit 4-8 slides, clearly labeled with name, title, medium, dimensions, date and indicate top. All submissions should include brief bio and a SASE - necessary for return of materials. Send to: Slide Share Committee, the Art Museum of Missoula, 335 N. Pattee, Missoula, MT 59802. For further inquiry: Tony Matlock Taylor, 406-542-9450 or Kathleen Stone, 406-542-8091. DEADLINE: ONGOING.

The **Holter Museum** is pleased to present its **27th national juried art exhibition, ANA 27**, August 28-Oct. 27, 1998. \$1,000 in cash awards are available. ANA 27 is open to all artists 18 years of age or older, residing in the United States. Works to be exhibited will be selected by the juror based on slide entries. All media, either two- or three-dimensional, are acceptable and all works must be original and executed within the last two years. To receive a prospectus, please send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to the Holter Museum of Art, 12 E. Lawrence, Helena, MT 59601. DEADLINE JUNE 15.

**Virginia City Victorian and Frontier Crafts** will hold a show on the historic Main Street of Virginia City, MT on July 11-12, 1998. All items must be handcrafted by participant, based on skills or techniques in use before 1900. Period costuming would be appreciated. \$35 for 10'x10' space. For applications contact Virginia City Victorian and Frontier Crafts, PO Box 218, Virginia City, MT 59755; 406-843-5555. DEADLINE MAY 31.

### Visual Arts, Crafts & Photography: Call for Entries - National

"**Illuminance '98**" is a national photography competition open to all artists using photographic processes as their media. Three entries, \$20 fee. Awards of \$1,500 cash and \$1,000 in purchase to be determined by the juror. Catalog of award winners will be distributed to each entrant. For prospectus, send SASE to: Lubbock Fine Arts Center, 2600 Ave. P, Lubbock, TX 79405; 806-767-2686; fax 806-767-0732. DEADLINE: JUNE 1.



**Second Annual Hoyt National Sculpture Exhibition.** Open to sculptors working in all media. Awards. Work will be displayed in the Blair Sculpture Walkway, as well as on the landscaped grounds of two turn-of-the-century mansions. For prospectus, send SASE to Hoyt Sculpture Exhibition, 124 E. Leasure Ave., New Castle, PA 16101. DEADLINE: AUGUST 1.

**Eighth National Juried Art Exhibition,** sponsored by the Havre de Grace Arts Commission. Open to all 2-D fine arts media (no photolithography or computer-assisted prints). Three entries, \$25 fee. Cash awards up to \$750. For prospectus, send SASE to National Exhibition, c/o Teresa Yost Bennett, 301 St. John St., Havre de Grace, MD 21078; 410-939-0738. DEADLINE: JUNE 21.

**1998 National Juried Competition.** Open to all contemporary art media. Sponsored by NoB.I.A.S., Vermont's only alternative exhibition space. For prospectus, send SASE to NoB.I.A.S., PO Box 739, North Bennington, VT 05257. DEADLINE: JUNE 30.

**17th Annual Hoyt National Art Show.** Open to all media. \$3,000 in cash and prizes. For prospectus, send SASE to Hoyt National, 124 E. Leasure Ave., New Castle, PA 16101. DEADLINE: JULY 2.

**Eighth Annual Juried Exhibition of the National Oil and Acrylic Painters' Society.** Open to all artists and all styles in oils or acrylic media. Three entries, \$25 fee. \$5,000 awards. Catalog to be published. For prospectus, send SASE to NOAPS, Dept. T, PO Box 676, Osage Beach, MO 65065. DEADLINE: JULY 1.

**Artsearch '98: Mirabile Dictu announces its Third National Competition,** offering \$1,500 first and \$750 second-place awards for dynamic, original contemporary art. All media and subjects are welcome. First slide free, \$10 each additional. Send SASE for prospectus to: Mirabile Dictu, PO Box 5, Putney, VT 05346. DEADLINE: MAY 31.

**Quite Water Park, in conjunction with the David G. Richardson family, announce a call for proposals for a permanent sculpture to be located at the park.** The sculpture will honor the life of the late Mr. Richardson and his commitment to the environment and his love of the Chesapeake Bay. The sculpture should have a theme that reflects man's relationship to the natural environment and the need to enhance, protect, and preserve its resources. The budget for this project will not exceed \$50,000 to produce a finished sculpture. Quite Waters Park is a 336-acre, Victorian-style, national award-winning park just outside the city of Annapolis, Maryland. For more information contact Michael Murdoch, Superintendent, Quiet Waters Park, 600 Quite Waters Park Rd., Annapolis, MD 21403-2700; 410-222-1777; fax 410-222-1545. DEADLINE: JUNE 15.

## Residencies

**The Montana Artists Refuge,** an artist-run residency program located in Basin, Montana, is accepting applications from artists of all disciplines through Fall 1998. Residencies are three months to one year in length. Deadline ongoing. Send SASE to Montana Artists Refuge, Box 8, Basin, MT 59631; 406-225-3525.

**Villa Montalvo Residency Program.** Writers, visual artists, musicians, composers, filmmakers, playwrights, architects, and artists working in new media are invited to submit applications for free residencies at Villa Montalvo. Five artists at a time reside from one to three months in fully-equipped apartments on the 175-acre historic

estate. Montalvo seeks an ethnically diverse and international community of artists which will broaden artistic perspectives and catalyze dialogue across boundaries. To receive brochure and application materials, please send a self-addressed label and 55¢ postage to Villa Montalvo, Artists Residency Program, PO Box 158, Saratoga, CA 95071-0158. DEADLINES SEPT. 1 AND MARCH 1.

**Bearlodge Writers and Devils Tower National Monument will co-sponsor a Writer's Residency program** this fall. Two one-week residencies will be available at the monument in September or October. Selected individuals will be offered modest housing at the monument to stir their creativity. A small travel stipend may be arranged. Interested writers should send a self-addressed stamped envelope to the Bearlodge Writers, PO Box 204, Sundance, WY, 82729 to request application materials and guidelines. Call Riley Mitchell at 307-467-5283 ext. 24 or contact Page Lambert at plambert@mcn.net or 307-283-2530 for additional information or program guidelines. DEADLINE JUNE 1.

## Literature & Playwriting

**Mountain Poetry Retreat** near White Sulphur Springs, June 5-7, 1998. Fee of \$225 includes lodging, gourmet meals and workshops "Poetic Possibility" and "The Art of RE-Vision." Instructors are Donna Davis, 1997 Montana Arts Council Individual Artist Fellow, and Susan Huggins, Ph.D., also a prize-winning writer. Space is limited. For more information and to register, call 406-259-9627 or 406-248-6471.

**The 1998 Western Montana Writers' Conference** will be held July 24-26, 1998 at the Birch Creek Center, 20 miles northwest of Dillon, MT. Enjoy a blend of readings, intensive workshops, and presentations. Inspired by the presenters and the lovely surroundings, take advantage of opportunities to work on your own writing. Presenters include Kim Barnes, Amy Holman, Pattiann Rogers and Larry Watson. The conference can be taken for one semester credit or non-credit. Contact Division of Outreach, Campus Box 114, Western Montana College of the University of Montana, 710 S. Atlantic, Dillon, MT 59725; call 406-683-7537.

**The Philosophical Flyfisher,** a symposium linking flyfishing, literature and philosophy - will be hosted August 7-9, 1998 by the Sander-Vanderbeck Center in historic Virginia City, MT. Russ Chatham and Lani Waller are each known internationally as philosophical flyfishermen - as authors, travelers, video producers, and inductees into the Flyfishing Hall of Fame. Also on hand will be Greg Keeler, David James Duncan and Robert Lee. Full subscription for the weekend includes in-depth hospitality and reserved admission to the authors' readings and conversations; slide and video showings; flyfishing on a private section of the Ruby River; and an outdoor western barbecue. Ticket admission will also be available for individual events. Contact Jack Waller, director, or Patricia Vanderbeck, hostess, at 406-843-5473, PO Box 375, Virginia City, MT 59755; email svc@3rivers.net.

**The Yellowstone Writers' Conference** features four days of classes, workshops, lectures, consultations, panels and readings. Conducted in Livingston, MT from June 17-20, 1998, by a distinguished faculty which includes Tim Cahill, Alston Chase, James Crumley, Lynette Dodson, Martha Elizabeth, Allen Jones, William Hjortsberg, Greg Keeler, Walter Kirn, William Kittredge, Larry Lahren, Ken McCullough, David McCumber, Scott McMillion, Gwen Petersen, Annick Smith, Jo Sykes, Toby Thompson and Paul Zarzyski. Contact Showcase Writers' Guild, Patricia Miller, Director, PO Box 1356, Livingston, MT 59047; 406-222-6564.

**The Pacific Northwest Writers' Conference** (PNWC) will be held July 16-19, 1998 in Bellevue, WA. This three-day conference provides a unique gathering place for aspiring and professional Northwest writers to network with each other as well as with members of the publishing industry. For more information, 206-443-3807 or email pnwritersconf@halycon.com.

**The First Annual Livingston Writers' Workshop** will be held May 28-31 and features Tim Cahill, Gary Ferguson, William Hjortsberg, Teresa Jordan and Walter Kirn. Cost is \$180, call for registration: 406-222-7766.

New England Writers sponsors its **Eleventh Annual Free Verse Contest** with awards of \$300, \$150 and \$100 with 10 honorable mentions, 10 commendables and 10 editors' choice. Open to all poets. Contest fee: 3 poems for \$5 unlimited entries. Send unpublished, free verse only, 30-line limit, include 3x5 card with your name, address and titles of poems. Poems published in *The Anthology of New England Writers 1999*. Submit poems, 3x5 card and fee to Frank Anthony, PhD, New England Writers, PO Box 483, Windsor, VT 05089. DEADLINE: JUNE 15, 1998.

New England Writers sponsors its **Second Short Short Fiction Contest.** \$300 Award. Open to all writers. Each entry \$5. Winner published in *The Anthology of New England Writers 1999*. Send original, unpublished work, 1,000 words or less, to Frank Anthony, New England Writers, PO Box 483, Windsor, VT 05089. DEADLINE: JUNE 15, 1998.

## Performing Arts

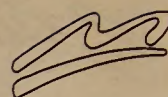
**Lakefolkfest Northwest Emerging Songwriters Contest.** Prizes: \$300 for first place; \$100 each for 2nd through 5th place entries. Entry fee \$10 for two songs. For applications or further information, contact Chris Lunn, Lakefolkfest, PO Box 7515, Bonney Lake, WA 98390; 253-863-6617. DEADLINE JUNE 15.

**Learn traditional jazz at Camp Heebie Jeebies,** June 19-25 at Wapati Resort in Seeley Lake, MT. Music theory, jazz history, improvisation and more from professional jazz musicians. Great student-teacher ratio. Cost is \$400. Call 406-449-7969.

**Grandstreet Summer Theatre School** in Helena, MT offers classes for young actors ages five to 18 in two sessions: July 5-19 and July 26-August 9. Develop skills in acting, improvisation, rehearsal techniques, voice and diction, communication, character development, creative thinking, playmaking, dance and movement. For more information or application, contact Marianne at 406-443-7547 or 406-442-4270.

**Montana Shakespeare in the Parks** offers two summer workshops for teens. **Young People's Theatre (YPT)** is a professional performance program designed for teens, aged 13-18, who are serious about acting. Held at the Temple Hills Camp in Paradise Valley, MT, YPT offers a variety of classes and workshops led by resident artists and Shakespeare in the Parks actors from across the U.S. Program acceptance is based on an audition/interview to be held May 2 in Bozeman. Tuition, which includes room and board, is \$495. For teens interested in musical theatre production, Montana Shakespeare in the Parks teams up with Montana Ballet, Montana TheatreWorks and MSU's Music Department to present **Headed for Broadway**, July 16-26 at Bozeman's MSU campus. Classes in acting, singing and dance culminate in a final presentation. Ages 14-19. Tuition is \$260. For more information on either of these programs, contact Montana Shakespeare in the Parks, 406-994-3901.

(Continued on next page)



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## Library cultural programs

(Continued)

Following the seminar, participating libraries will be eligible to apply for grants of up to \$3,000 to support cultural programming. A minimum of \$30,000 will be awarded in each of the eight regions.

To receive a grant, applicants must partner with a community institution, agency or group and submit a year-long plan that includes live appearances by writers and artists and a publicity plan. The grants must be matched one-to-one.

The project will also fund creation of a roster of nationally recognized authors and writers available for library appearances and development of a how-to manual for local cultural programming. For information, contact the American Library Association Public Programs, 50 East Huron St., Chicago, Ill., 60611; (312) 280-5057.

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## Congress to consider IMLS budget request

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The Administration's FY 1999 budget released to Congress requests \$172,340,000 for the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS).

Diane Frankel, Director of IMLS noted, "I am proud that this budget contains such a strong show of support for the work of libraries and museums. Federal funding plays an important role in assuring that Americans have access to high quality museum and library services."

The budget contains \$146,340,000 for library services; this amount is level to the FY 1998 appropriation. The Institute's programs provide grants to allow libraries to adapt new technologies to identify, preserve and share library and information resources across institutional, local and state boundaries and to extend outreach to those for whom library service requires extra effort or special materials.

The budget also contains \$26,000,000 for museum services; this is an increase of \$2,720,000 over the FY 1998 appropriation. The Institute's museum programs strengthen museum operation, improve care of collections, increase professional development opportunities and enhance the community service role of museums.

Funds from both the library service and museum service allocations are used to strengthen collaboration between libraries and museums.

Nearly \$300,000 in cash awards and \$3 million in scholarship opportunities are available to talented emerging artists through the 1998-99 ARTS (Arts Recognition and Talent Search®) program. Eligible artists must be high school seniors, or 17 or 18 years of age. Any eligible artist applying to the program will have access to approximately \$3 million in scholarship opportunities from more than 100 leading colleges, universities and conservatories. Interested students should contact their guidance counselor for an ARTS '99 application; or call 1-800-970-ARTS; or apply on-line at <http://www.nfaa.org>. FIRST DEADLINE JUNE 1, FINAL DEADLINE OCT. 1.

## Workshops

**A Watercolor Workshop with Mike Capser** will be held May 6-10, 1998 in Cody, WY. This fun-filled workshop is open to beginning-to-advanced students who will learn to successfully combine sound design principals with Mike's special techniques to produce superior watercolors. In addition, you can hone your life drawing skills with Connie Herberg as instructor. For complete information contact: Artisan Workshop Promotions, PO Box 304, Shepherd, MT 59079; 406-373-5513 or e-mail [artisanworkshops@yahoo.com](mailto:artisanworkshops@yahoo.com).

**Joe Abbrescia will conduct a hands-on painting workshop, "How To Paint Your Own Painting,"** in Kalispell, MT, May 29-31, 1998. Participants, working in their chosen media, will explore and get in touch with their individual uniqueness, the key to painting one's own painting. For further information contact Joe or Sue Abbrescia, 12 First Ave. West, Kalispell, MT 59901; 406-755-6639.

Join four nationally-admired creative writers and special guests for the **Eleventh Annual Yellow Bay Writers' Workshop**, a week-long writing event, held August 9-15, that brings together participants and faculty in an informal, inspiring, western Montana setting. A five-page writing sample and a one-page biography must be submitted with the registration. Optional academic credit. Scholarships available. Contact Lea Upshaw at 406-243-2094 or 1-888-254-2544; email [hhi@selway.umt.edu](mailto:hhi@selway.umt.edu) for registration form or more information. DEADLINE: JULY 1.

**A workshop by John Garre, "Putting Color in Watercolor"** will be held May 16-17 from 1-5 p.m. at Beall Park Art Center in Bozeman, MT. Garre graduated with honors from the Art Center School of Design in Los Angeles and exhibits nationally. Cost is \$80 plus materials. Phone 406-585-2907 to register.

**"Monotypes On Location," a printmaking workshop**, will be held May 2-3 from 1-5 p.m. at Beall Park Art Center in Bozeman, MT. Instructor is Deborah Mitchell, who has an MFA in printmaking and currently teaches painting at Montana State University. Cost is \$60 plus materials. To register, call 406-586-3970 and ask for Ellen Ornit.

**A weekend workshop, "The Soft-Tech Jewelry Workshop - Part 2"** will be held May 25 & 26, from 1-5 p.m. at the Beall Park Art Center in Bozeman, MT. Cost is \$60 plus a \$5 materials fee. Although the Part 1 workshop is not a prerequisite, some jewelry experience is required. To register, contact instructor Ken Bova at 406-587-5062.

**"Macro Photography"** will be held at Rocky Mountain School of Photography in Missoula, MT, May 13, 16, and 20th. Taught by Jenni Fraser, who will introduce you to the basic techniques, equipment and compositional aspects of macro photography. Prerequisite: Camera I or equivalent knowledge of 35mm camera. Tuition

is \$45. Rocky Mountain School of Photography, 210 N. Higgins, Suite 101, Missoula, MT 59802; 406-543-0171; email [rmsp@marsweb.com](mailto:rmsp@marsweb.com).

**"The Figure in Porcelain,"** with instructor **Beth Lo**, will be held at the Archie Bray Foundation in Helena, MT June 13-14. Students at all levels will draw and sculpt the human figure in clay, taking advantage of the fine grain and white color of porcelain, and trouble-shoot problems of cracking and drying clay. Cost is \$125, with a \$65 deposit required. Enrollment limited to 15. To register and for more information, contact the Archie Bray Foundation, 2915 Country Club Ave., Helena, MT 59602; 406-443-3502; email [archiebray@archiebray.com](mailto:archiebray@archiebray.com).

**"Low Fire-Low Tech: Handbuilt Earthenware Pottery,"** will be held Sept. 11-13 at the Archie Bray Foundation in Helena, MT. Instructor is Gail Kendall. Students will explore various methods of hand-forming functional pots. Cost is \$125, with \$65 deposit required. Enrollment limited to 15. To register and for more information, contact the Archie Bray Foundation, 2915 Country Club Ave., Helena, MT 59602; 406-443-3502; email [archiebray@archiebray.com](mailto:archiebray@archiebray.com).

**The 1998 Americans for the Arts Annual Convention Values/Arts/Action: Making the Arts Central to Our Communities and Ourselves** will take place in Denver, CO from June 6-9, 1998 at the Adams Mark Hotel. Three pre-conferences will take place June 4-5: Back to Basics: Arts Management 101, Training Artists to Work in Alternative Settings and a United Arts Funds Leadership Forum. For more information contact Americans for the Arts, 1000 Vermont Ave. NW, 12th Floor, Washington DC 20005, or call 202-371-2830 for more information.

**Native Arts Network: 1998, The Artist as Visionary**, a conference sponsored by Atlatl Inc., the National Service Organization for Native American Arts, will be held in San Francisco Oct. 8-11, 1998. Participants will examine the role of the artist in creating the future, especially the role of Native Artists as key partners in moving indigenous communities into the 21st Century. For more information, contact Patsy Philips, PO Box 34090, Phoenix, AZ 85067-4090; 602-277-3711; email [atlatl@artswire.org](mailto:atlatl@artswire.org). Artists from Montana can receive travel assistance from the Montana Arts Council. Call Arni Fishbaugh at 406-444-6430 for more information.

**"Summer Dance Montana,"** an intensive two-week workshop for ages 8-adult in ballet and jazz, will be held June 15-27, 1998 in Missoula, MT. Sponsored by Missoula Youth Ballet, guest instructor is Christopher Anderson, soloist, San Francisco Ballet. For information, phone 406-721-2757.

**The Drum Brothers: Rhythm Exploration and Drum Building**, will be held June 6-11, 1998 at the Feathered Pipe Ranch, near Helena, MT. The retreat includes sound and rhythm exploration and celebration; beginning hand drumming and rhythm awareness classes for both beginners and the more advanced; daily song and chant circles; extra drums and percussion instruments provided; building a 12"x24" ashiko drum, if you choose; care and handling instructions for each drum. For more information, call 406-442-8196.

**A first annual SUMMERfest at the Fairgrounds** will be held in Livingston, MT this summer and feature two weeks of art-related events. A preliminary week of art workshops will be held beginning June 20. Heiner Hertling and Jack VanHoesen will be teaching field sketching and studio painting workshops during SUMMERfest Preliminary Week. Not only do Hertling and VanHoesen teach by critiquing

## Arts & Culture statewide service organizations

**MT Alliance for Arts Education**, PO Box 2264, Kalispell, MT 59903; (406) 257-3241. Advocacy organization for arts education.

**MT Art Education Assn.**, President, Susan Seilstad, Lockwood Elementary School, 1932 US Highway 87, Billings, MT 59101; (406) 259-0154. Provides professional information and development for art teachers in all areas.

**MT Arts**, PO Box 1872, Bozeman, MT 59771; (406) 585-9551. Provides administrative services for statewide organizations and some local groups and acts as a fiscal agent for emerging arts organizations.

**MT Art Gallery Directors Assn.**, 2112 First Avenue North, Great Falls, MT 59401; (406) 761-1797. Supports visual art centers and galleries through traveling exhibitions, technical assistance and an annual conference.

**MT Assn. of Symphony Orchestras**, 512 Keith Ave., Missoula, 59801; (406) 543-8459. Provides resource sharing, imports musicians and conducts seminars and conferences.

**MT Center for the Book**, c/o Lewis & Clark Library, 128 S. Last Chance Gulch, Helena, MT 59601; (406) 447-1690, ext. 17, ask for Debbie. Organizes public forums featuring Montana authors; and promotes reading, book arts and publishing.

**MT China Painting Art Association**, 1805 Highland, Helena, MT 59601; (406) 443-5583. Promotes the art of china painting, porcelain and glass; sponsor a yearly public show featuring nationally known teachers.

**MT Committee for the Humanities**, PO Box 8036, Missoula, MT 59807; (406) 243-6022. Presents humanities programs, awards grants, conducts speakers bureau, reading/discussion groups and teacher programs.

**MT Community Foundation**, 208 N. Montana, Suite 207, Helena, MT 59601; (406) 443-8313. FAX (406) 442-0482, E-mail: [mcf@desktop.org](mailto:mcf@desktop.org). Maintains endowments for nonprofit organizations and awards/grants.

**MT Cultural Advocacy**, PO Box 1872, Bozeman, MT 59771; (406) 585-9551. Coalition of arts and cultural agencies that lobbies the state legislature to maintain funding of cultural agencies and oversees legislation affecting Montana's cultural sector.

**MT Dance Arts Assn.**, PO Box 1872, Bozeman, MT 59771; (406) 585-9551. Sponsors a fall and spring workshop for young Montana dancers, administers a summer scholarship program and presents a summer teachers' workshop.

**MT Indian Contemporary Artists**, PO Box 6157, Bozeman, MT 59771; (406) 586-1441. Sponsors individual art symposia on reservations, develops traveling exhibits and conducts workshops for individual Indian artists.

**MT Institute of the Arts**, PO Box 1824, Bozeman, MT 59771. Assists artists in all disciplines through educational projects, information, and workshops.

**MT Music Educators Assn.**, President, Renée Westlake, 2900 Love Lane, Bozeman, MT 59715; (406) 388-6909. Provides professional information and development for music teachers in all areas.

**MT Performing Arts Consortium**, PO Box 1872, Bozeman, MT 59771; (406) 585-9551. Supports performing arts presenting in large and small communities; sponsors an annual conference showcasing performing arts; facilitates block-booking; and provides quick-grants to rural presenters.

**MT Preservation Alliance**, PO Box 1872, Bozeman, MT 59771; (406) 585-9551. Provides technical assistance and information on historic preservation issues through a circuit rider program. Publishes *Preservation Montana*.

**MT Public Television Assn.**, PO Box 503, White Sulphur Springs, MT 59645; (406) 547-3803. Supports efforts of Montana's rural low power public television stations; provides technical assistance in video production and station application procedures and sponsors an annual conference.

**MT Thespians**, President, Stacey Bergquist, CM Russell High School, 228 17th Avenue NW, Great Falls, MT 59403; (406) 791-2387. Provides professional information and development for theater teachers in all areas.

**MT Watercolor Society**, PO Box 8274, Missoula, MT 59807-8273; (406) 728-0189. Sponsors two annual workshops, an Open Members show, a national Juried Watermedia Exhibit, and a quarterly newsletter.

**Museums Association of Montana**, MT Historical Society, 225 N. Roberts, Helena, MT 59620; (406) 444-4710. Supports museums of all disciplines through annual conferences, quarterly newsletters and technical assistance with museum issues.

**Very Special Arts Montana**, 221 E. Front, Missoula, MT 59802; (406) 549-2984. Provides information, technical assistance and workshops on working with differently-abled constituencies.

**Writer's Voice of the Billings Family YMCA**, 402 N. 32nd St., Billings, MT 59101; (406) 248-1685. Assists emerging writers in artistic and professional development; supports accomplished writers; provides public programs that challenge the traditional definition of literary arts.



individuals, but they also have participants work in the media of their choice and paint whatever subjects they wish. Sam Terakedis will be offering a sculptural workshop teaching how to create realistic human faces. Anyone interested in the workshops or available display openings for SUMMERfest should contact Park County Fair Board Manager Donna Goldner at 406-222-4185 or Jack VanHoesen at 406-686-4850.

**"It's Magic," the Montana Association of Weavers and Spinners Conference**, will be held June 26-28 on the campus of MSU-Billings. Two pre-conference workshops are offered by Rita Buchanan: "Knitting with Handspun Yarn" June 23, and "Spinning Yarn You Love to Use" June 24-25. Also, Jason Collingwood will be teaching Block Weaving in a post-conference workshop. Twenty seminars are also offered on various subjects throughout the conference. For registration or more information contact Mary Wood, 3108 Silverwood, Billings, MT 59102; 406-259-5123.

**The Helena Art Center is offering a class by Monte Dolack** on May 16, 1998 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m.. The cost of the workshop is \$125. Class size is limited to 14 students. Dolack, noted for his whimsical views of wildlife is perhaps the most successful commercial artist in Montana. He works mainly in acrylics and will teach in that medium and watercolor. For more information and a list of materials for the class, contact the Helena Art Center at 406-443-2242; PO Box 304, Helena, MT 59624.

## Media Arts

**Media Generation: What Works to What's Next**, the National Alliance for Media Arts and Culture 1998 National Conference, will be held in Pittsburgh, PA, Oct. 22-25. Topics include non-profit management, artists and producers, partnerships and outreach. For further information contact conference coordinator at

the Pittsburgh Filmmakers: Karen Khan, 412-681-5449, ext. 221 or Karamac@andrew.cmu.edu; website [www.namac.org](http://www.namac.org).

## Job Opportunities

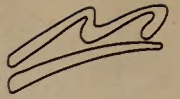
**Enterprise Development Director, Western States Arts Federation.** Cutting-edge, non-profit arts organization located in beautiful Denver, CO, seeks dynamic, high-energy, qualified individual to develop and implement earned revenue projects and services. Writing skills and business planning abilities are imperative, along with research and analytical abilities. Team performance skills are critical to this small organization, as well as having an entrepreneurial spirit. Interest and knowledge of Internet/Web technology are desired. Minimum of bachelor's degree required. Arts background helpful, but not required. WESTAF offers a progressive working environment and an informal, yet highly productive staff. Salary based on experience and qualifications with excellent benefits. Qualified individuals interested in becoming part of this dynamic team should submit a resume and letter of intent to WESTAF, 1543 Champa St., Suite 220, Denver, CO 80202 or fax: 303-629-9717. WESTAF is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Minority and women applicants are encouraged to apply. No phone calls, please. DEADLINE: MAY 1.

**Need a job? Check ArtJob.** ArtJob is the source for comprehensive, up-to-date nationwide arts employment listings and related opportunities in the arts. ArtJob is published bi-monthly via first-class mail and on-line. ArtJob provides immediate access to employment opportunities, as well as grants, conferences, newsletters, feature articles and much more. 1-888-JOBS-232, or subscribe on their web site at [www.westaf.org/artjob](http://www.westaf.org/artjob).

**Executive Director.** The MonDak Heritage Center and Art Gallery is seeking an Executive Director. Full-time position, accountable to a 15-member

board. Responsible for museum and arts administration, policy and planning, budgeting, event planning and fundraising, community relations and supervision of volunteers and small paid staff. Computer skills valuable. Salary based on qualifications and experience. Position begins ASAP. Send cover letter, resume and references with salary requirements to Search Committee, MonDak Historical and Art Society, PO Box 50, Sidney, MT 59270. Application deadline open until filled.

**Washington State University seeks a highly motivated and capable Director for its Museum of Art.** The Director sets goals and objectives for the WSU Museum of Art that coincide with the University's missions and goals; implements its artistic and administrative policies and procedures; and shapes the direction of its programs. The Director's position is full time, 12-month, permanent, non-tenure track faculty reporting to the WSU Provost. The position is immediately available. The salary is competitive. Qualifications: Bachelor's degree in fine arts, art history, museology, or related field with a minimum of five years of art museum administrative and supervisory experience or a Master's degree in the same disciplines with a minimum of two years experience; significant curatorial, programming, and public art education experience; demonstrated knowledge of museum practices per AAM standards, demonstrated fundraising skills and good record of successful grants; and excellent spoken and written communication skills. Applicant should send a cover letter addressing his/her qualifications; a current vitae; museum of art vision statement; and the names, complete addresses and telephone numbers of three references. Application and nominations should be sent to: Nancy L. Baker, Museum of Art Director's Search Committee Chair, Washington State University Libraries, PO Box 645610, Pullman, WA 99164-5610. SCREENING OF APPLICATIONS BEGINS JUNE 15.



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## New home for artists' database

Very Special Arts is the new home for an artists' database that includes information on more than 300 working artists, with and without disabilities, whose work is available for exhibition.

The original database was compiled by Enabled Artists United, a California organization that promoted awareness of the work of artists with disabilities and helped them gain exposure to mainstream arts communities. When EAU folded last year, it donated its database to Very Special Arts.

The database includes contact information, biographies and artists' statements. For more information, call Annady, director of National Partnerships, at (202) 28-2800.

## What's Happening In (months & year)?

Planning an arts or cultural event, gallery showing or a performance? If so, ArtistSearch would like to know about it. Fill out the following information and send it to: Montana Arts Council, 316 North Park Avenue, Suite 252, PO Box 202201, Helena, MT 59620-2201.

Event: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Event Location: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Time(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

## ArtistSearch Change of Address

New Address

Old Address

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City, State: \_\_\_\_\_ City, State: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Daytime Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Daytime Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Send to: Montana Arts Council, 316 North Park Avenue, PO Box 202201, Helena, MT 59620-2201



# MAY/JUNE 1998

**1** Speakers Program; Conferences;  
ArtsREACH Grants

**2** Arni's Addendum

**3** Congrats

**4** Artrain Rolls Through Montana

**5** Fellowships: Mast and Karson

**6-7** New Books and Music

**8** Heritage Project

**9** Artists in Schools

**10** Choteau Exchange; NEA Budget

**11** Cultural Tourism

**12** NEA Grants to Organizations;  
Susan Colley Award

**13** Well-Written Play

**14-16** Arts Calendar and Exhibitions

**17** MAC Folk Art Exhibit; MAGDA;  
MIA Golden Jubilee

**18** Russell Museum; Winners of  
Art Shows; New Heritage Center

**19** The Artist's Statement

**20** Fundraising with Finesse

**21** Art on the Web

**22-23** Law & the Art World:  
Contract Law; Bill Frazier

**24-27** Opportunities

## State of the Arts

### MONTANA ARTS COUNCIL

316 NORTH PARK AVENUE, SUITE 252  
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HELENA, MT 59620-2201  
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*Administrative Assistant*

This issue of *ArtistSearch*  
produced by *Lively Times*

The brochure inserted in this newsletter  
is part of the Montana Arts Council's new  
speaker's program, "State of the Arts".  
Call MAC for more of these brochures!



MAY/JUNE 1998